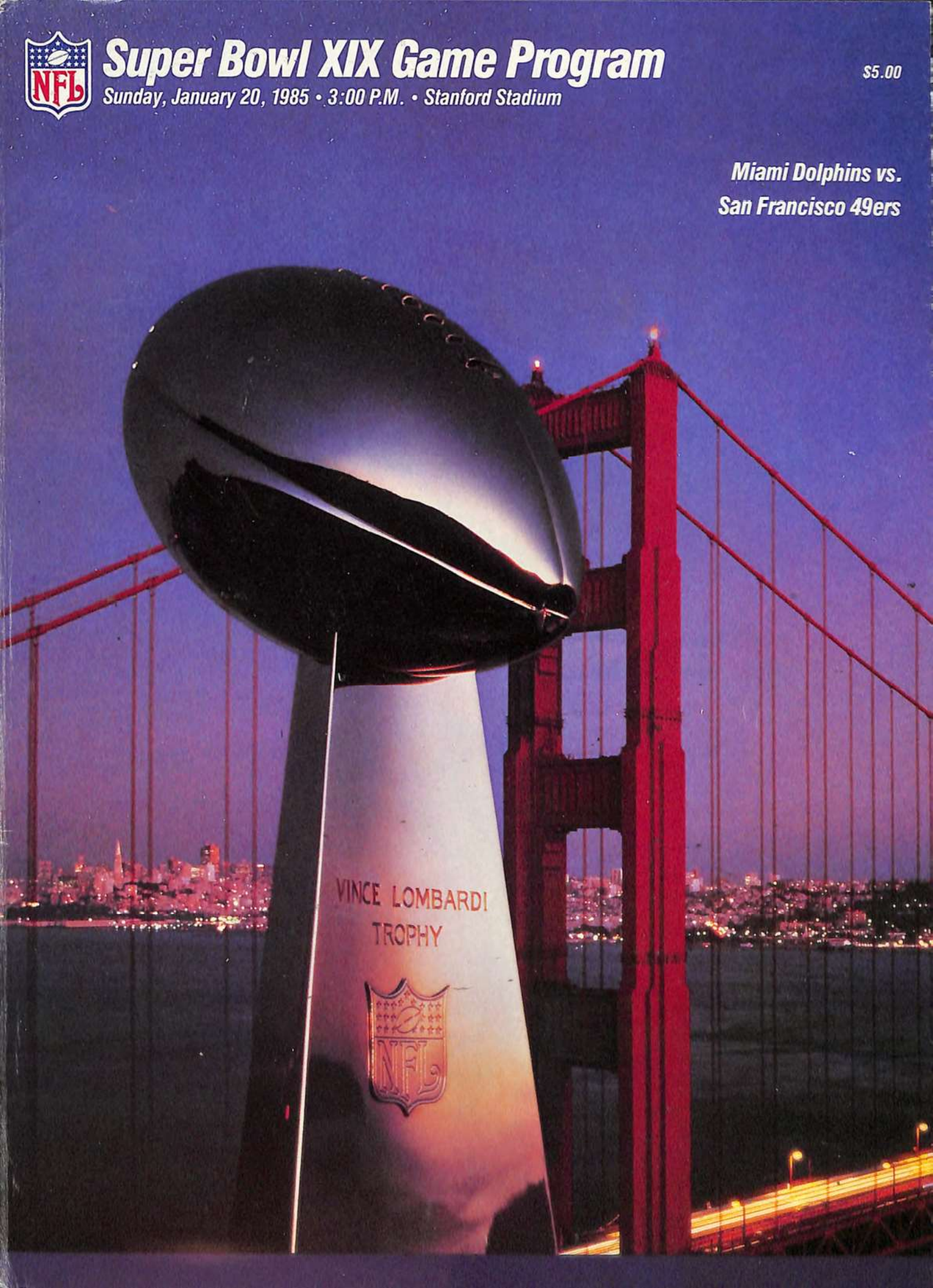
Super Bowl XIX Game Program

Sunday, January 20, 1985 • 3:00 P.M. • Stanford Stadium

$5.00

Miami Dolphins vs.
San Francisco 49ers



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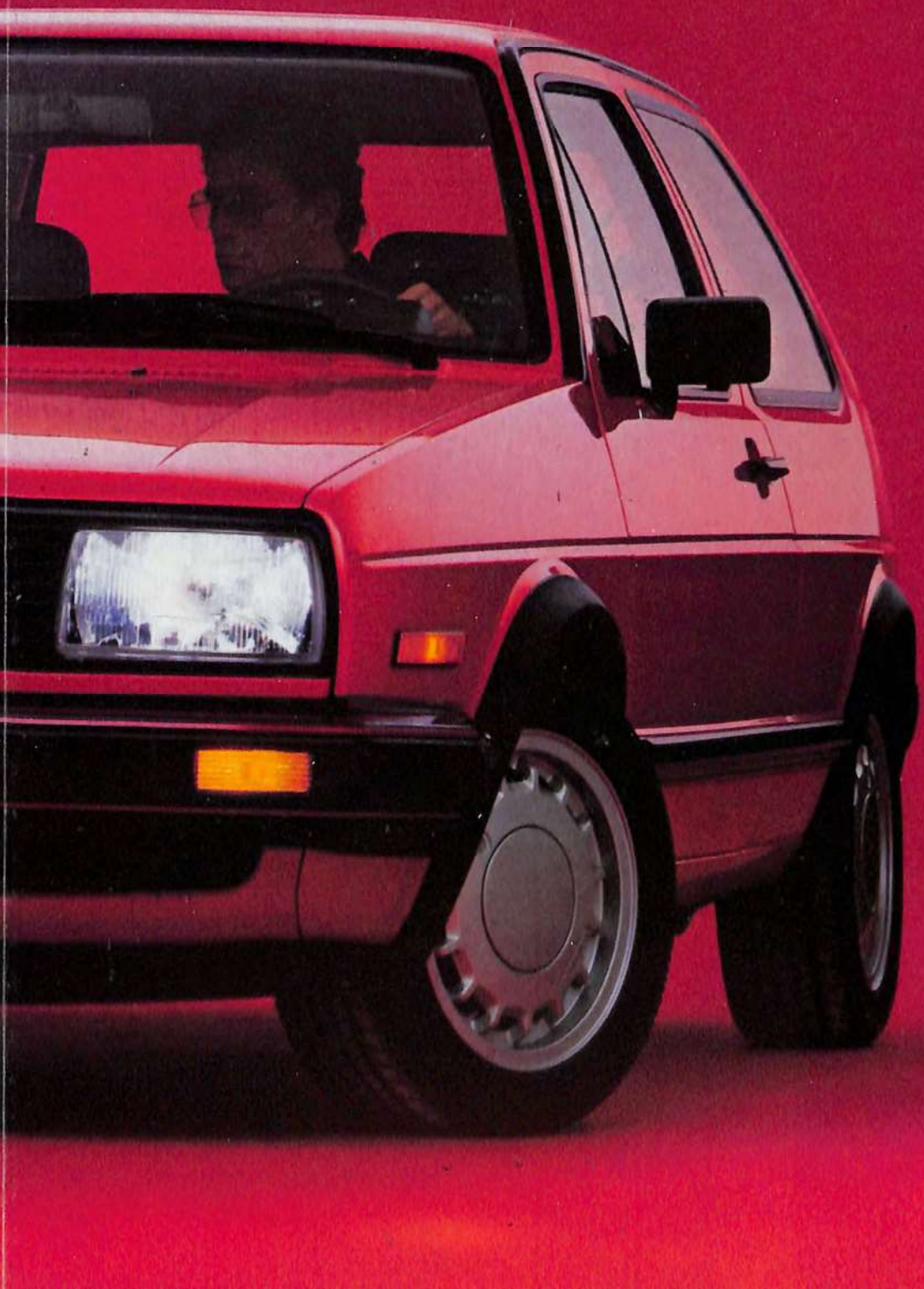
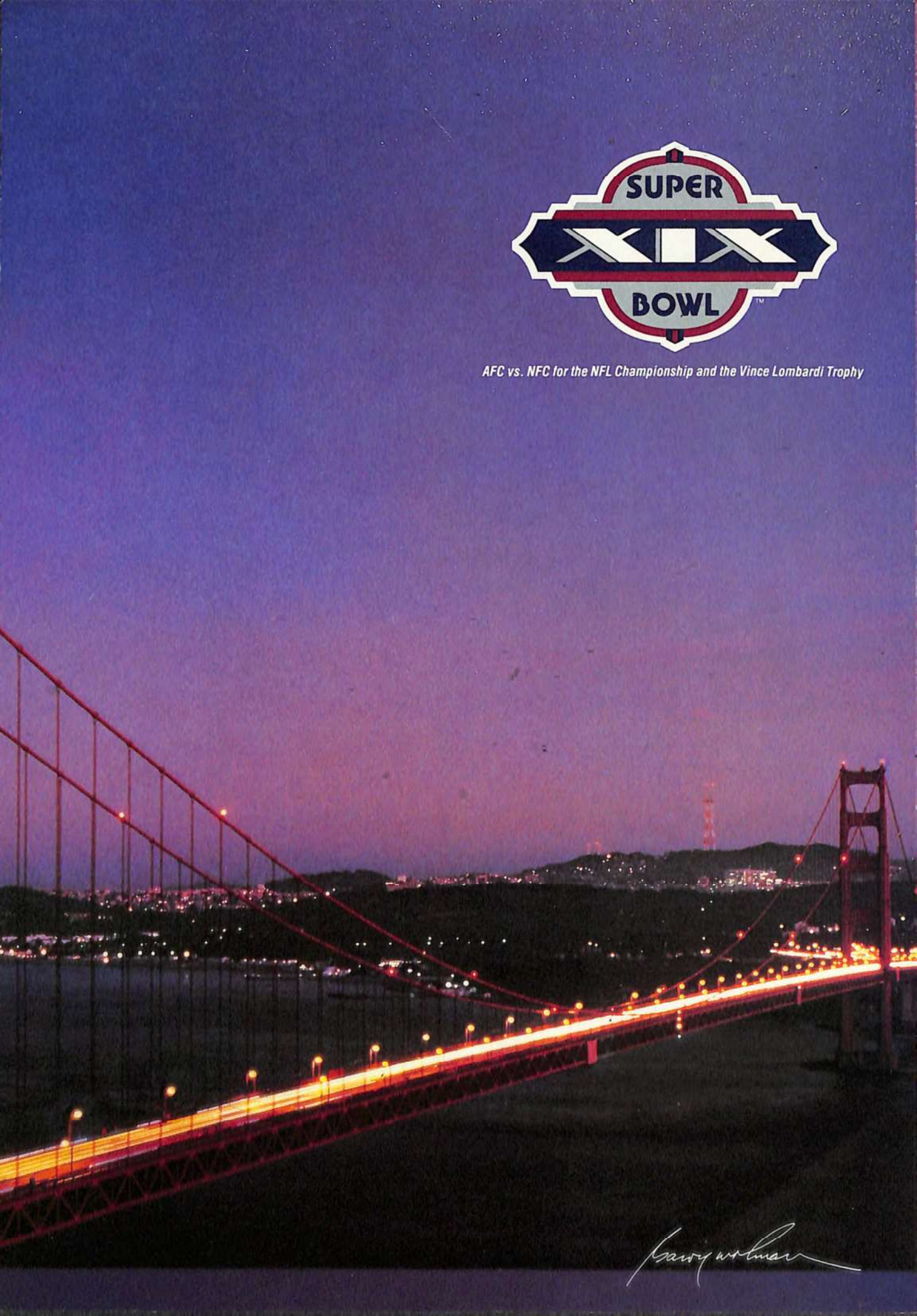
85 Car of the Year.




SUPER
XIX
BOWL
AFC vs. NFC for the NFL Championship and the Vince Lombardi Trophy

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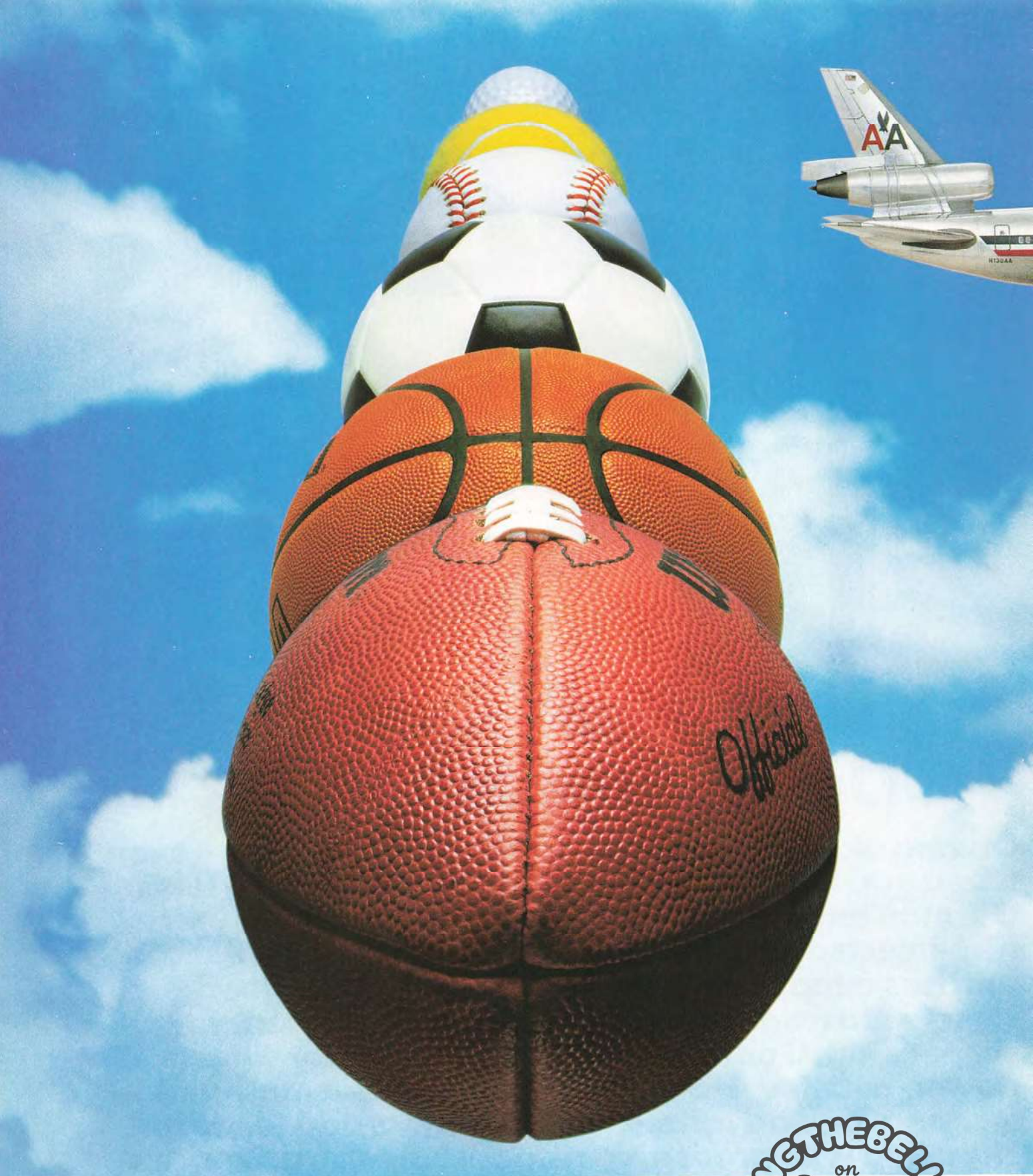

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On the Cover: Super Bowl XIX theme photograph by Baron Wolman.

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- Lawton, OK
- Little Rock, AR
- London, England
- Long Beach, CA
- Longview, TX
- Los Angeles, CA
- Lubbock, TX
- Maui, HI
- Memphis, TN
- Mexico City, MX
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- Mobile, AL
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- Montreal, Que., Can.
- Nashville, TN
- Nassau, Bahamas
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- Sacramento, CA
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- St. Louis, MO
- St. Maarten, N.A.
- St. Thomas, Virgin Is.
- Salt Lake City, UT
- San Antonio, TX
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- San Jose, CA
- San Juan, P.R.
- Santa Barbara, CA
- Santo Domingo, Dom. Rep.
- Savannah, GA
- Seattle/Tacoma, WA
- Shreveport, LA
- Syracuse, NY
- Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL
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ON THE INSIDE

Despite the popularity of the Super Bowl, it's not easy to make the Golden Gate Bridge pale in comparison to the Vince Lombardi Trophy. But Baron Wolman did just that.

Wolman is the celebrated photographer/pilot responsible for creating the theme art and program cover for Super Bowl XIX. He also produced the spectacular series of aerial photographs in "A Golden State of Mind," beginning on page 65. The author of 25 books, including *California From the Air* and *Estates of Beverly Hills*, Wolman's work in the Super Bowl program allowed him to unite three of his great loves—football, flying, and the natural and man-made splendor of the Bay Area.

"I grew up in Columbus, Ohio, and that's where I caught football fever," says the 47-year-old Wolman. "My dad was an alumnus of Ohio State and we had season tickets to see Buckeyes games, which were always big events."

Wolman moved to the Bay Area in 1964. "The moment I saw San Francisco for the first time from the window of a 707, I knew there was absolutely no way I was not going to live here," he says. "It was love at first flight."

When he started piloting the flights himself in 1976, the relationship was complete. "There is an infinite number of photographs to be made here," he says. "Every flight is new and revealing; every flight provides more extraordinary images. Not because I personally happen to be taking the pictures, but because northern California offers such visual treasures."

Wolman shoots many of his photographs from his Cessna 172, a four-seat, single-engine plane. He also has shot extensively from helicopters and the Goodyear blimp. He insists the aerial photographic procedure isn't difficult no matter what craft he is in.

"I generally take someone with me to hold the controls," he says, "but I don't really have to. It's like riding a bicycle—you get to where you can do it safely for brief spells with no hands.

"Photography requires a lot of luck. The key is maximizing the possibility of being lucky. For example, if the optimum light is at about three or four o'clock, you don't bother to go up until then. You find the picture you want and you keep circling until you get it. The problems come when you go into an area you don't really know and need a picture of something, but you don't know what. Then you just keep shooting and hope you get something. Of course, you use up a lot of film, but you do that on the ground, too."

One person who takes his flights of fancy on the ground, where he frequently seems to be "chained to my drawing table," is illustrator Cliff Spohn, who did the acrylic paintings featured in "The Stanford Legacy," beginning on page 81.

Like Wolman, Spohn is a Bay Area transplant from another part of the country, in his case Oregon. He moved to the area when he attended San Jose State from 1971-73, and has been living there since. He now resides in Fremont.

Spohn's connection to Stanford is personal, not professional—both of his daughters were born at Stanford's hospital. "I'm not really a big sports fan," he says, "but a lot of the work I do is sports-related. My technique lends itself to sports, and especially to montage-type illustration. What that technique is, I can't tell you. I can't pin it down myself. I know I start out loose and get tighter and tighter —I even overpaint in certain areas. But I think that contributes to the feeling my drawings have: a photographic feeling, a definite sense of realism, almost of Rockwellism."

Spohn and Wolman have become attached to the Bay Area for different reasons. Ted Brock offers yet another rationale.

"I grew up in Orinda, so the 49ers' training camp at St. Mary's was just an extension of my backyard," says Brock, a senior editor at NFL Properties and the author of "Long Live the King!," a tribute to Hugh McElhenny that begins on page 21. "Shagging punts and placekicks for Tommy Davis was virtually part of my birthright."

So for Brock, whose loyalties also include the University of California Bears (and whose article marks his contribution to eight consecutive Super Bowl programs), the Super Bowl will be something of a homecoming. He's been to "Big Games" between Stanford and Cal in Stanford Stadium before. Today's game isn't one of those "Big Games," but it *is* "the biggest game." ■

NFL MAN of the YEAR

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Lite BEER

ROLF BENIRSCHKE

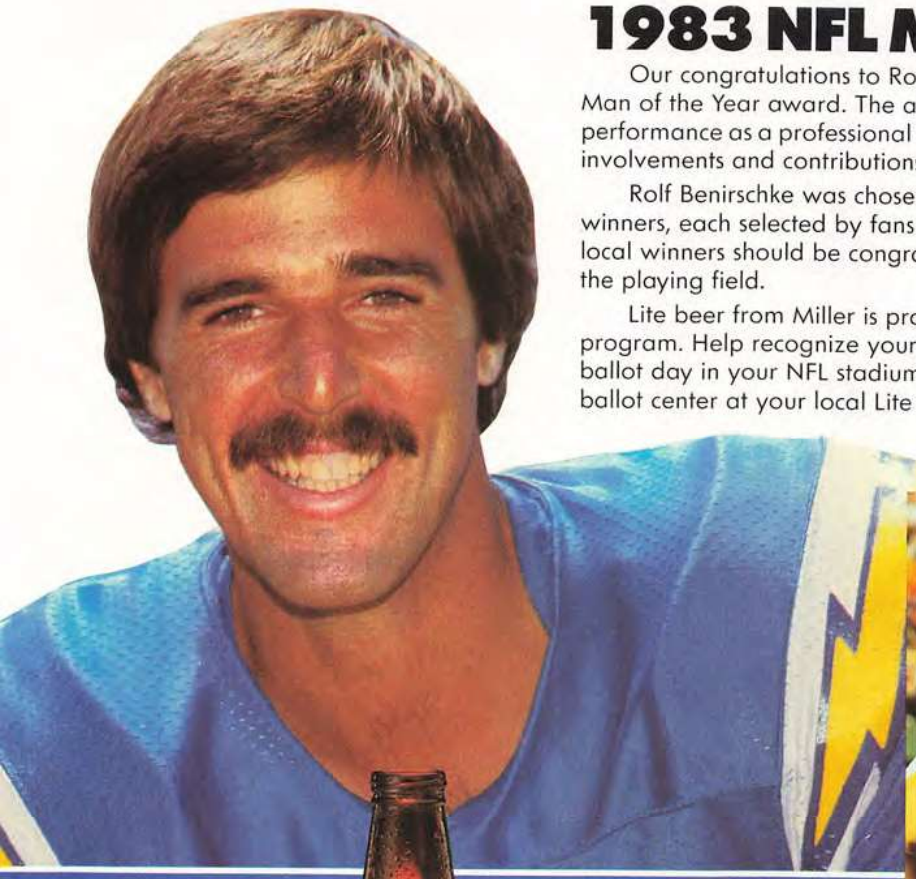
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

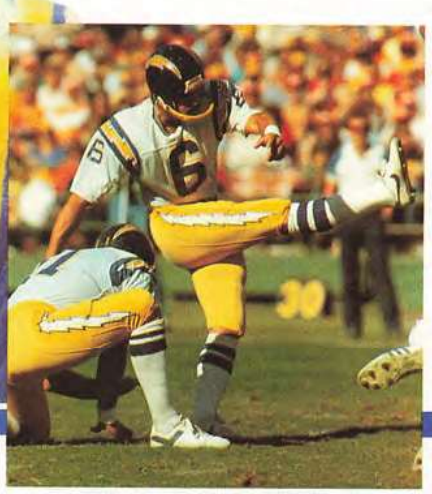
1983 NFL MAN OF THE YEAR

Our congratulations to Rolf Benirschke for winning the 1983 NFL Man of the Year award. The award recognizes Rolf for both his ability and performance as a professional football player and his extraordinary charitable involvements and contributions to his community outside of football.

Rolf Benirschke was chosen from a total of 28 local Man of the Year winners, each selected by fans in their NFL teams' home cities. Each of these local winners should be congratulated for his contributions both on and off the playing field.

Lite beer from Miller is proud to sponsor the 1984 NFL Man of the Year program. Help recognize your team's NFL Man of the Year by voting on ballot day in your NFL stadium or at the Lite beer NFL Man of the Year ballot center at your local Lite retailer.





NFL MAN of the YEAR Lite BEER

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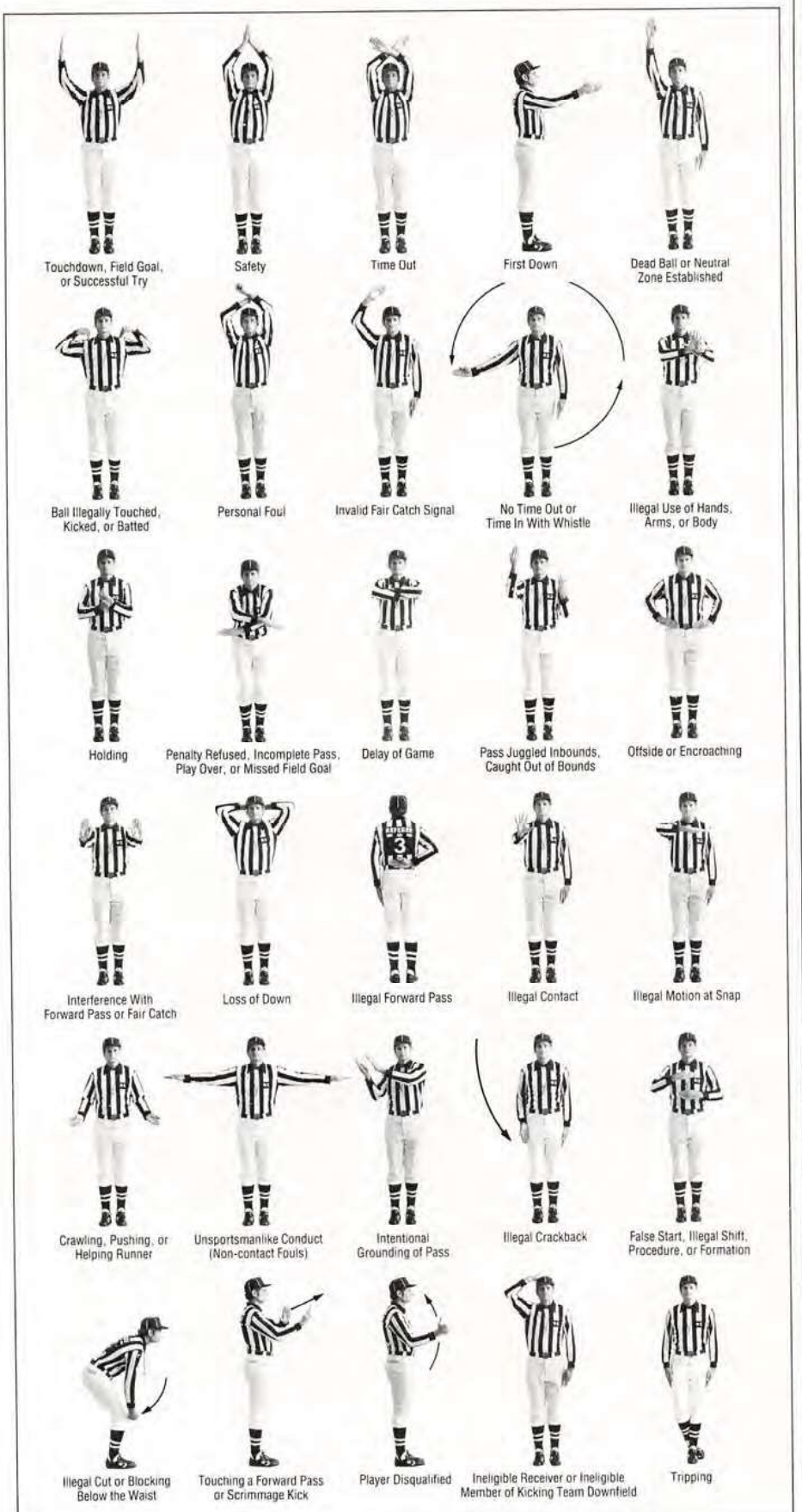
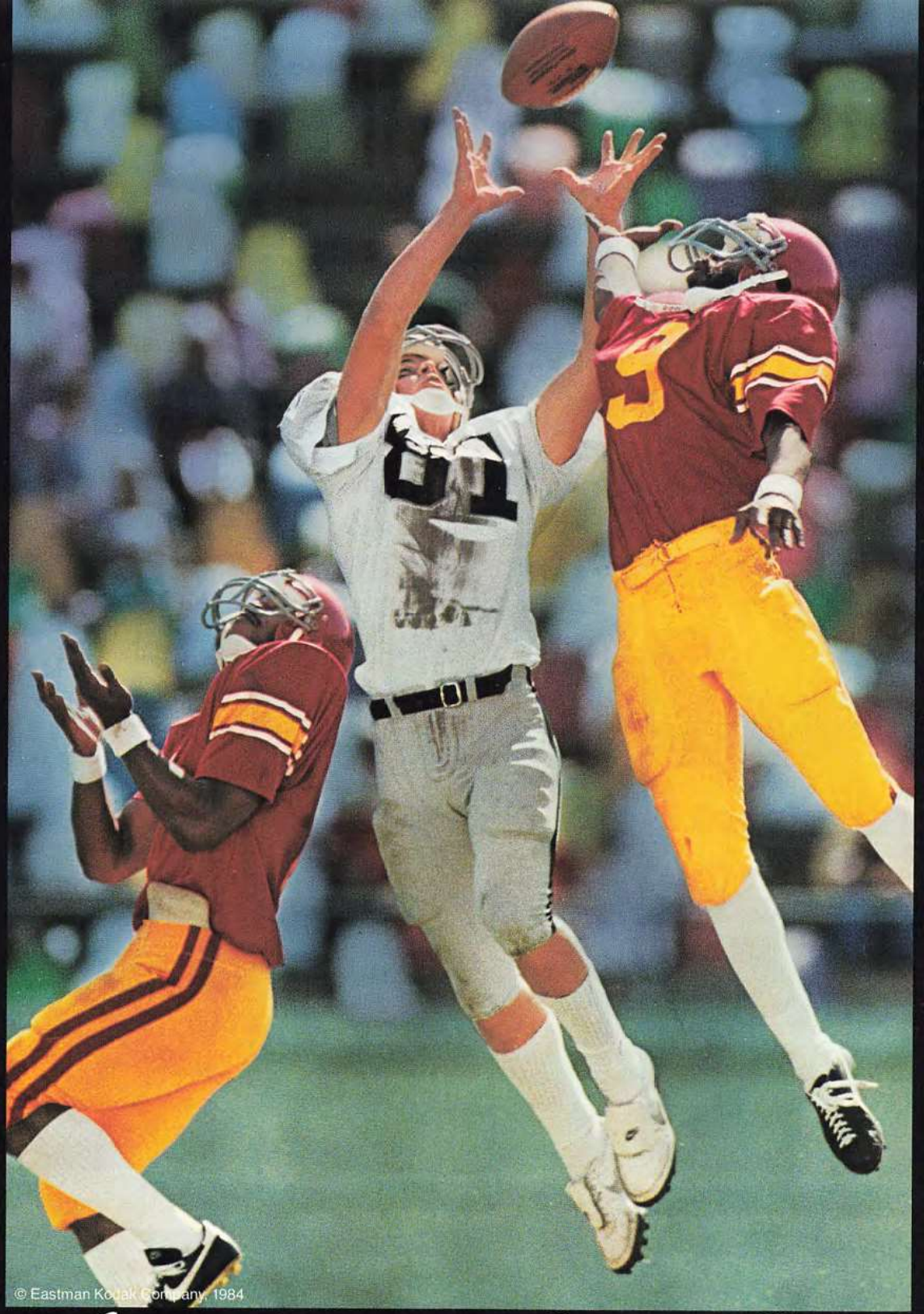

Touchdown, Field Goal, or Successful Try
Safety
Time Out
First Down
Dead Ball or Neutral Zone Established
Ball Illegally Touched, Kicked, or Batted
Personal Foul
Invalid Fair Catch Signal
No Time Out or Time In With Whistle
Illegal Use of Hands, Arms, or Body
Holding
Penalty Refused, Incomplete Pass, Play Over, or Missed Field Goal
Delay of Game
Pass Juggled Inbounds, Caught Out of Bounds
Offside or Encroaching
Interference With Forward Pass or Fair Catch
Loss of Down
Illegal Forward Pass
Illegal Contact
Illegal Motion at Snap
Crawling, Pushing, or Helping Runner
Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Non-contact Fouls)
Intentional Grounding of Pass
Illegal Crackback
False Start, Illegal Shift, Procedure, or Formation
Illegal Cut or Blocking Below the Waist
Touching a Forward Pass or Scrimmage Kick
Player Disqualified
Ineligible Receiver or Ineligible Member of Kicking Team Downfield
Tripping

GAME FACTS

At Stake—The National Football League championship and the Vince Lombardi Trophy.
Participants—The champions of the American Football Conference (AFC) and the National Football Conference (NFC) of the NFL.
Date—Sunday, January 20, 1985.
Starting time—3:00 P.M. P.S.T.

Site—Stanford Stadium, Stanford, California.
Capacity—84,098.
Playing surface—Grass.
Players' shares—$36,000 to each member of the winning team and $18,000 to each member of the losing team; in excess of $2.6 million total for the personnel of the competing clubs.
Players' Uniforms—The NFC champion will be the home team and use the west bench. The AFC champion will be the visiting team and use the east bench. The NFC champion, as the home team, will have the choice of wearing colored or white jerseys.
Television—ABC.
Radio—CBS.
Officials—There will be seven officials—referee, umpire, line judge, head linesman, back judge, side judge, and field judge—and two alternates.
Ball—A Wilson Football is used in all NFL games.
Official time—The scoreboard clock will be official.
Sudden death—If the game is tied at the end of the regulation 60 minutes, it will continue in sudden-death overtime. The team scoring first—by safety, field goal, or touchdown—will win. NFL preseason and regular season games have a maximum of one 15-minute overtime period, but in postseason games, play continues by 15-minute periods, with two-minute intermissions, until there is a winner.
Trophy—The winning team receives permanent possession of the Vince Lombardi Trophy, a sterling silver trophy created by Tiffany & Company.
Attendance history—1,473,131 persons have attended the first 18 Super Bowls. The largest crowd was 103,985 at Super Bowl XIV, Pittsburgh Steelers versus Los Angeles Rams, at the Rose Bowl.
Most valuable players—Super Bowls I and II—Green Bay Packers quarterback Bart Starr; Super Bowl III—New York Jets quarterback Joe Namath; Super Bowl IV—Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Len Dawson; Super Bowl V—Dallas Cowboys linebacker Chuck Howley; Super Bowl VI—Dallas Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach; Super Bowl VII—Miami Dolphins safety Jake Scott; Super Bowl VIII—Miami Dolphins running back Larry Csonka; Super Bowl IX—Pittsburgh Steelers running back Franco Harris; Super Bowl X—Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Lynn Swann; Super Bowl XI—Oakland Raiders wide receiver Fred Biletnikoff; Super Bowl XII—Dallas Cowboys defensive end Harvey Martin and defensive tackle Randy White; Super Bowls XIII and XIV—Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw; Super Bowl XV—Oakland Raiders quarterback Jim Plunkett; Super Bowl XVI—San Francisco 49ers quarterback Joe Montana; Super Bowl XVII—Washington Redskins running back John Riggins; Super Bowl XVIII—Los Angeles Raiders running back Marcus Allen.
Future sites—Super Bowl XX will be played January 26, 1986, at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans. Super Bowl XXI will be played January 25, 1987, at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. ■



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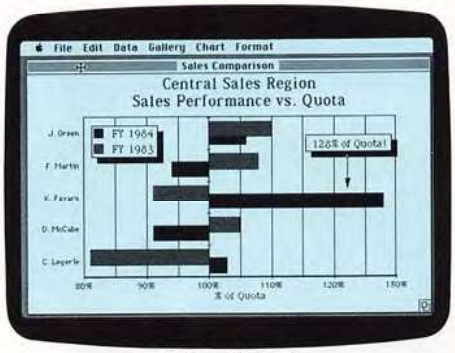

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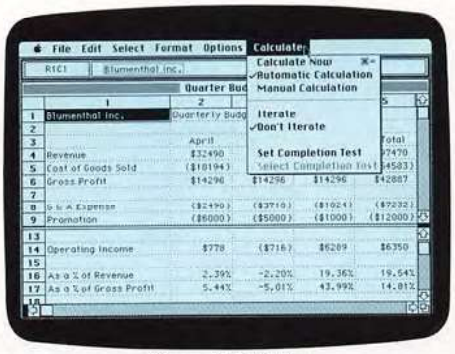

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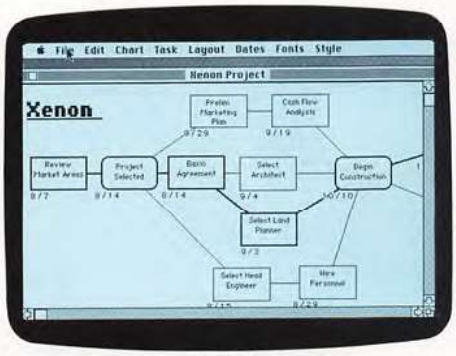

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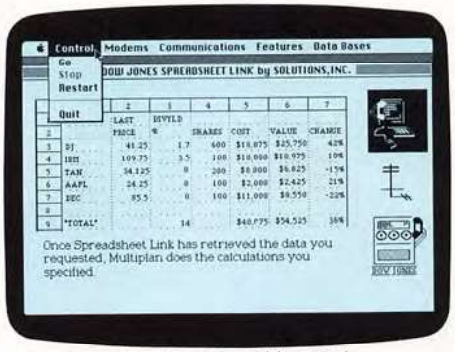
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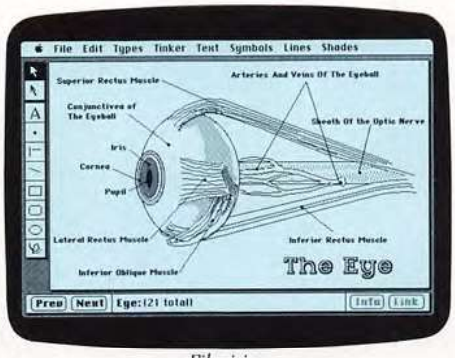

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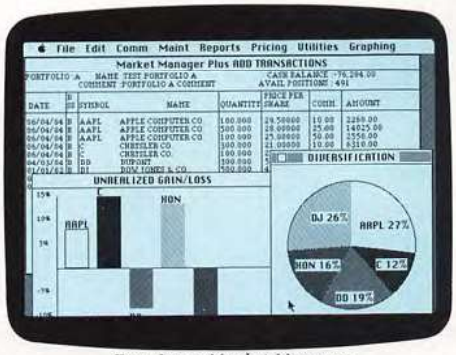

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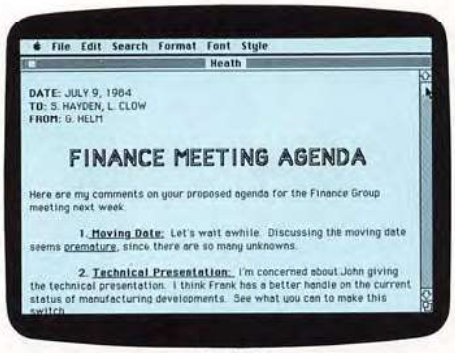
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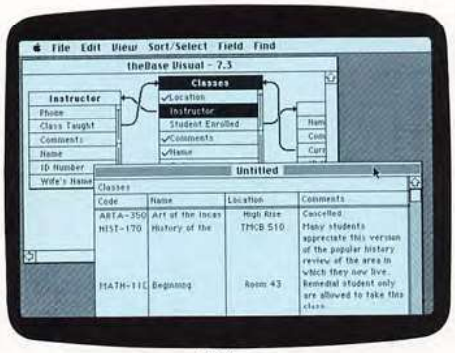
DATE: JULY 9, 1984
TO: S. HAYDEN, L. CLOW
FROM: G. HELM
FINANCE MEETING AGENDA
Here are my comments on your proposed agenda for the Finance Group meeting next week.
1. Moving Date: Let's wait awhile. Discussing the moving date seems premature, since there are so many unknowns.
2. Technical Presentation: I'm concerned about John giving the technical presentation. I think Frank has a better handle on the current status of manufacturing developments. See what you can to make this switch.

MacWrite,
word processing.



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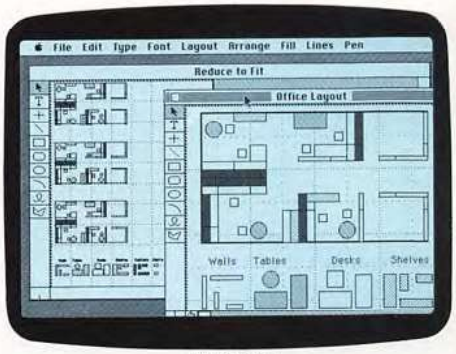

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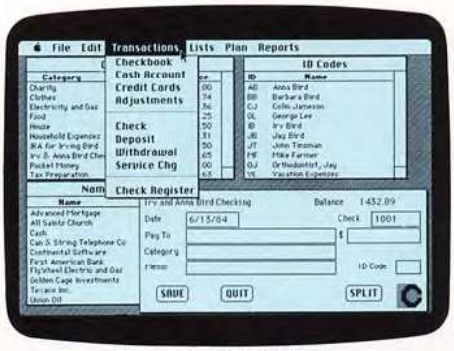
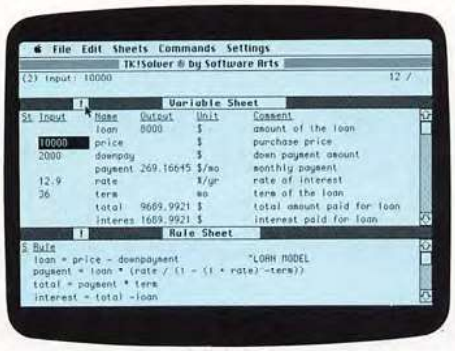


Home "Mac" Accountant,
personal finance.

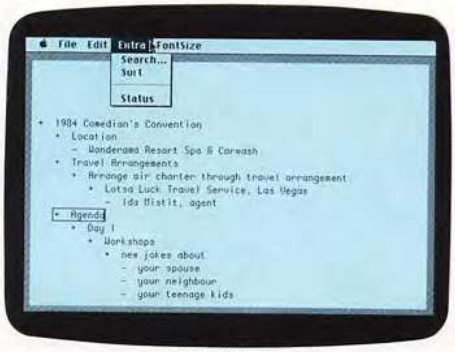

File Edit Sheets Commands Settings
TK!Solver ® by Software Arts
Variable Sheet
Rule Sheet
loan = price - downpayment
payment = loan * (rate / (1 - (1 + rate)^-term))
total = payment * term
interest = total - loan

TK! Solver,
equation processor.

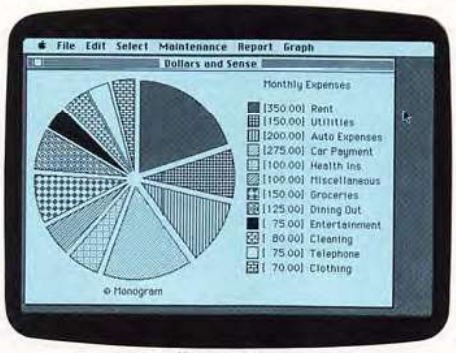
Habadex,
database and communications.

The programs above are just a few examples of new software for Macintosh. Some are available now, others will be released in the coming weeks. *© 1984 Apple Computer Inc. Apple and the Apple logo are registered trademarks of Apple Computer Inc. Macintosh is a trademark licensed to Apple Computer Inc.* *For an authorized Apple Dealer nearest you call* ***(800) 538-9696.*** *In Canada, call* ***(800) 268-7796*** *or* ***(800) 268-7637.***

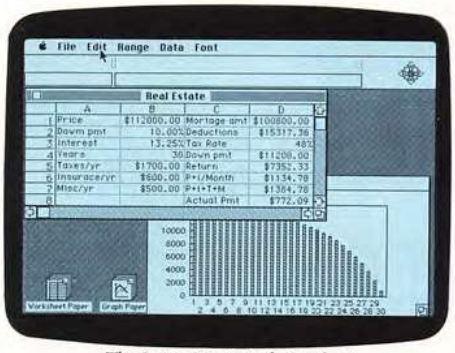
r some important programs.



ThinkTank,
idea processor.



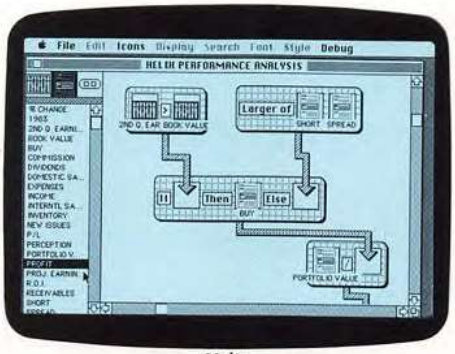
Dollars and $ense,
personal finance.



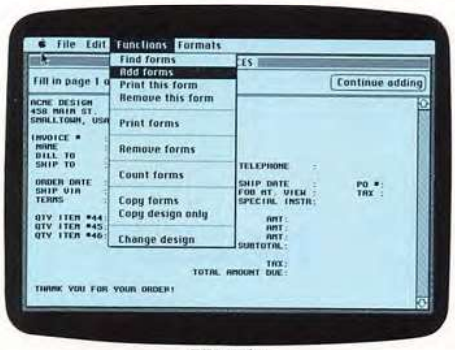
The Lotus Macintosh Product,
integrated business software.

Main Street Filer,
database management.

MacTerminal,
data communications.



Helix,
relational database.



PFS: File,
database management.

Peachtree's Back to Basics,
accounting package.

Every business day, a new software program is being developed for the Macintosh™ Personal Computer.

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SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS

Super Bowl I, *January 15, 1967, Green Bay 35, Kansas City 10, at Los Angeles, 61,946*—The Packers and the Chiefs met in the "First AFL-NFL World Championship Game"; official use of the term "Super Bowl" still was two years away. Bart Starr threw for 250 yards and two touchdowns. Max McGee had seven receptions for 138 yards and a pair of scores. Behind Willie Wood's interception and the running of Elijah Pitts, the Packers broke open a close game with two third-quarter touchdowns. Starr was named the game's most valuable player.

Super Bowl II, *January 14, 1968, Green Bay 33, Oakland 14, at Miami, 75,546*—Starr passed for 202 yards, including a 62-yard touchdown to Boyd Dowler. Starr earned his second Super Bowl most valuable player award as he led the Packers to their second straight world title. The Packers' Don Chandler kicked four field goals, and Herb Adderley grounded the passing show of the Raiders' Daryle Lamonica (15 of 34 for 208 yards) by returning an interception 60 yards for Green Bay's last score. The game marked the end of Vince Lombardi's career as head coach of the Packers.

Super Bowl III, *January 12, 1969, N.Y. Jets 16, Baltimore 7, at Miami, 75,389*—At a sports dinner at Miami Springs Villa the Thursday night before the game, Jets quarterback Joe Namath said, "We're going to win Sunday, I'll guarantee you." The Jets made good on Namath's promise and became the first AFL team to beat an NFL team for the world championship. Their defense shackled the Colts' offense, forcing five turnovers (including four interceptions) and fullback Matt Snell powered his way for 121 yards and the Jets' only touchdown. For his part, Namath completed 17 of 28 passes for 206 yards and no interceptions and was named the game's most valuable player.

Super Bowl IV, *January 11, 1970, Kansas City 23, Minnesota 7, at New Orleans, 80,562*—Kansas City, sparked by Len Dawson's superb quarterbacking, Jan Stenerud's kicking, and an impenetrable defense, built a 16-0 halftime lead in its win over Minnesota that evened the Super Bowl series at two victories each for the NFL and AFL. Dawson, the fourth consecutive quarterback to be chosen the game's most valuable player, completed 12 of 17 passes for 142 yards, one a 46-yard scoring pass to Otis Taylor in the third quarter. The Kansas City defense completely shut down the Minnesota offense, holding the Vikings' strong running game to 67 total yards.

Super Bowl V, *January 17, 1971, Baltimore 16, Dallas 13, at Miami, 79,204*—The NFL realigned for the 1970 season, and Baltimore, representing the American Football Conference, defeated the National Football Conference's Dallas Cowboys on a 32-yard field goal by Jim O'Brien with five seconds remaining in the game. The field goal was set up by an interception by Baltimore linebacker Mike Curtis. In a game marred by 11 turnovers, Dallas linebacker Chuck Howley became the first defensive player (and still the only member of the losing team) to win the most valuable player award.

George Sauer had eight catches in Game III.

Tom Landry finally won the big one in Game VI.

The Steelers were overpowering in Game IX.

Super Bowl VI, *January 16, 1972, Dallas 24, Miami 3, at New Orleans, 81,023*—Dallas had been one of the strongest teams in the NFL for five years, losing NFL Championship Games to Green Bay in 1966 and 1967 and Super Bowl V to Baltimore. The Cowboys finally won the big one, as they dominated the young Miami Dolphins in Game VI. Roger Staubach, the game's most valuable player, completed 12 of 19 passes for 119 yards and two touchdowns, and Duane Thomas and Walt Garrison combined for 169 yards rushing. The Cowboys' defense held Miami to only 185 total yards.

Super Bowl VII, *January 14, 1973, Miami 14, Washington 7, at Los Angeles, 90,182*—The Dolphins became the first team in NFL history to complete a perfect season (including the regular season and playoffs), going 17-0. Behind a powerhouse rushing attack led by backs Larry Csonka, Jim Kiick, and Mercury Morris, Miami built up a 14-0 halftime lead and held the Redskins scoreless until the last three minutes of the game. Miami safety Jake Scott, who had two key interceptions, was named the game's most valuable player.

Super Bowl VIII, *January 13, 1974, Miami 24, Minnesota 7, at Houston, 71,882*—The defending champion Dolphins controlled the game from the outset. They scored the first two times they had the ball and coasted to a victory over the Vikings. Miami became the first team since Green Bay to win consecutive Super Bowls and set a record with its third straight appearance. Larry Csonka rushed 33 times for a record 145 yards and two touchdowns to win the most valuable player award.

Super Bowl IX, *January 12, 1975, Pittsburgh 16, Minnesota 6, at New Orleans, 80,997*—The Steelers ended a 42-year wait for a championship by totally shutting down the Vikings with a record-setting defensive performance. The Steel Curtain defense limited Minnesota to 17 yards rushing on 21 carries and intercepted Fran Tarkenton three times. Meanwhile, Pittsburgh's Franco Harris set Super Bowl records by rushing 34 times for 158 yards and earned the most valuable player award. The Steelers led 2-0 at halftime on a safety scored when Dwight White tackled Tarkenton in the end zone.

Super Bowl X, *January 18, 1976, Pittsburgh 21, Dallas 17, at Miami, 80,187*—

Co-MVP's Harvey Martin and Randy White (54) haunted Denver's backfield all day in Game XII.

SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS Continued

Dallas became the first wild card team to play in the Super Bowl, but it was the Steelers, not the Cowboys, who became the third team to win two Super Bowls. Terry Bradshaw threw a 64-yard touchdown pass to Lynn Swann with three minutes left for the deciding points. Swann caught four passes for a Super Bowl-record 161 yards and was named most valuable player. The Steelers' defense sacked Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach seven times and intercepted three of his passes.

Super Bowl XI, *January 9, 1977, Oakland 32, Minnesota 14, at Pasadena, 103,438*—Behind the rushing of Clarence Davis (137 yards), the passing of Ken Stabler (12 of 19 for 180 yards), and the clutch receptions of Fred Biletnikoff (four for 79 yards), the Raiders set Super Bowl records for most yards total offense (429) and most rushing yards (266). Biletnikoff was the game's most valuable player. Oakland put the game away early, scoring on three consecutive second-quarter possessions to lead 16-0 at halftime. The Vikings' loss was their fourth without a victory in the Super Bowl.

Super Bowl XII, *January 15, 1978, Dallas 27, Denver 10, at New Orleans, 75,583*—Dallas's Doomsday II defense overshadowed Denver's more publicized Orange Crush to lead the Cowboys to their second world title. Dallas forced eight turnovers, sacked Denver quarterbacks Craig Morton and Norris Weese four times, and limited the Broncos to 156 net yards. End Harvey Martin and tackle Randy White, the right side of the Dallas defensive line, shared the most valuable player award. Dallas quarterback Roger Staubach completed 17 of 25 passes for 183 yards and one touchdown to lead the Cowboys' offense, which netted 325 yards overall.

Super Bowl XIII, *January 21, 1979, Pittsburgh 35, Dallas 31, at Miami, 79,484* —Pittsburgh became the first team—and Chuck Noll the first coach—to win three Super Bowls as the Steelers held off the Cowboys in the highest scoring game in Super Bowl history. The game also was the first Super Bowl rematch. Terry Bradshaw, who was voted the game's most valuable player, threw for 318 yards and four touchdowns to outperform Roger Staubach, who passed for 228 yards and three scores. Dallas scored twice in the final two-and-one-half minutes of the game, but Rocky Bleier recovered an onside kick with 17 seconds left to seal the Steelers' victory.

Super Bowl XIV, *January 20, 1980, Pittsburgh 31, Los Angeles 19, at Pasadena, 103,985*—Bradshaw threw for 309 yards and two touchdowns, gained his second most valuable player award, and led a fourth-quarter rally as the Steelers came from behind to win an unprecedented fourth Super Bowl title before a record crowd. The Rams led 19-17 in the fourth quarter of the seesaw game, mainly on the passing of Vince Ferragamo, who threw for 212 yards.

Super Bowl XV, *January 25, 1981, Oakland 27, Philadelphia 10, at New Orleans, 76,135*—The Raiders' defense, led by linebacker Rod Martin's three interceptions, controlled the tempo of the game and set up 10 points to lead Oakland to victory. Jim Plunkett threw for 261 yards and three touchdowns—one on an 80-yard pass to Kenny King—to earn most valuable player honors. After the Raiders scored twice in the first quarter, the Eagles were never able to get back into the game.

Super Bowl XVI, *January 24, 1982, San Francisco 26, Cincinnati 21, at Pontiac, 81,270*—The San Francisco defense came up with big plays throughout the game, including a four-play goal-line stand in the third quarter, to stave off the Bengals' explosive offense. The 49ers built a 20-0 halftime lead before quarterback Ken Anderson brought the Bengals back in the second half. Anderson set a Super Bowl record by completing 25 passes (for 300 yards and two touchdowns). The Bengals outgained the 49ers 356 yards to 275. San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana earned most valuable player honors. He completed 14 of 22 passes for 157 yards and one touchdown; he ran for another touchdown.

Super Bowl XVII, *January 30, 1983, Washington 27, Miami 17, at Pasadena, 103,667* —Washington used the running of most valuable player John Riggins to overpower Miami. Riggins, who rushed for a Super Bowl-record 166 yards on 38 carries, scored the game-winning touchdown on a fourth-down, 43-yard run with 10 minutes left in the game. The Redskins' defense straitjacketed the Dolphins in the second half, allowing only 34 rushing yards and no passing yards. Washington dominated Miami in total yardage, 400 to 176.

Marcus Allen was unstoppable in Game XVIII.

Super Bowl XVIII, *January 22, 1984, L.A. Raiders 38, Washington 9, at Tampa, 72,920* —Raiders running back Marcus Allen rushed for a Super Bowl-record 191 yards and two touchdowns to lead Los Angeles over Washington 38-9. The margin of victory was the largest in Super Bowl history. Allen, who was named the game's most valuable player, scored twice in the third quarter on runs of 5 and 74 yards (the longest run in Super Bowl history). The Raiders dominated the game from the outset, getting out to a 14-0 second-quarter lead. Their advantage increased to 21-3 on linebacker Jack Squirek's 5-yard interception return for a touchdown with seven seconds left in the first half. ■

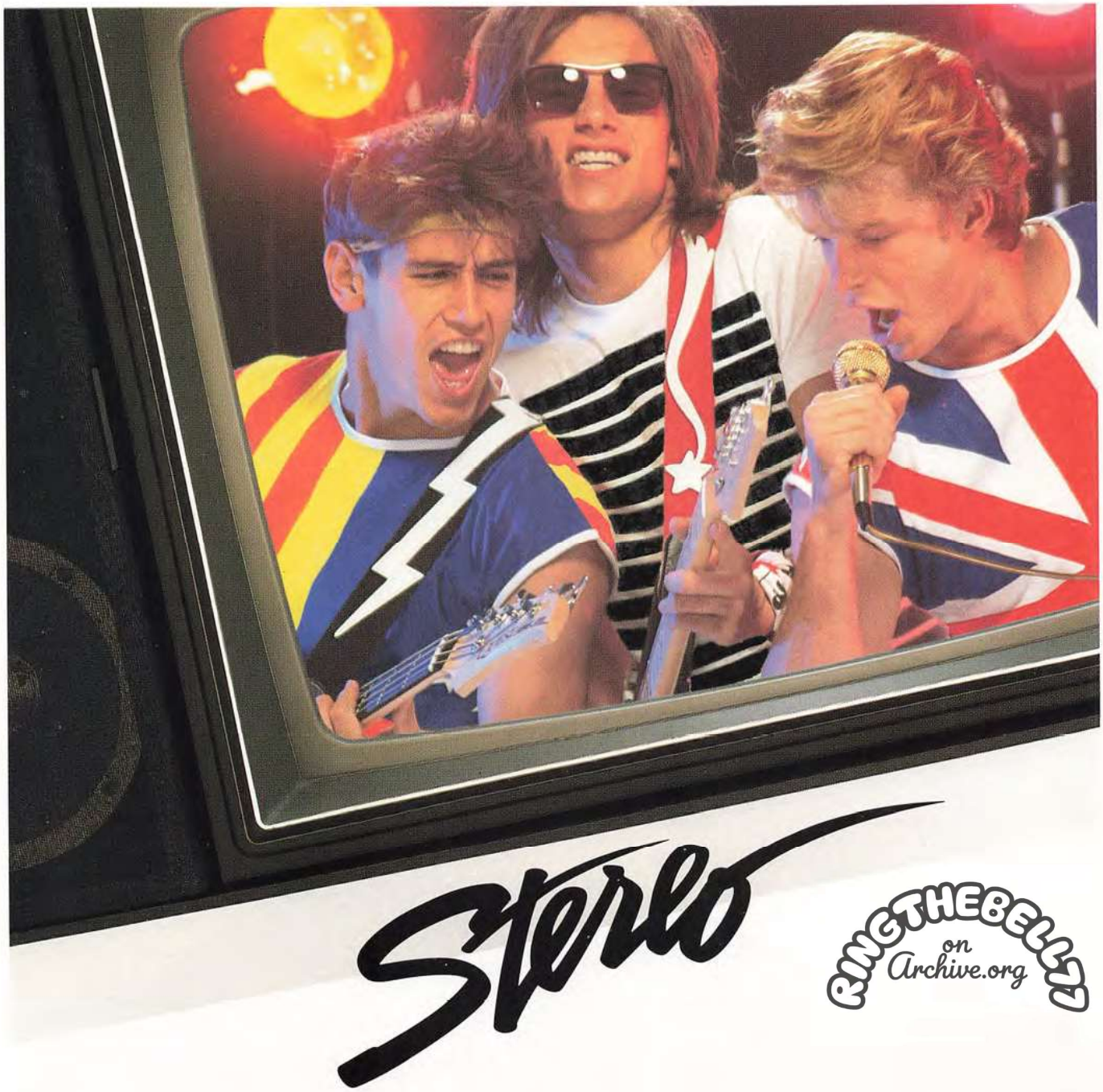
SPORT MVP

Ford

Ford Division is pleased to announce that the player selected as Sport Magazine's Most Valuable Player in Super Bowl XIX will receive a 1985 Thunderbird Turbo Coupe as his award. It's only fitting. One great performer deserves another.

Have you driven a Ford... lately?

Ford



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A (as in ABC) Television First

The nine most viewed sports events in television history have been Super Bowls. Count on Game XIX to make that 10 out of 10 as ABC takes on the task of televising its first Super Bowl. In fact, ABC is gearing up for the possibility that today's game will surpass Super Bowl XVI as the highest-rated sports event ever.

Frank Gifford, who has earned his stripes as the play-by-play announcer for ABC's "Monday Night Football," will be the most visible of an all-star cast of talent in front of and behind the camera. The executive producer for the game will be Roone Arledge, the senior producer Bob Goodrich. The director will be Chet Forte.

The host for the pregame show will be Jim Lampley. The pregame, halftime, and postgame shows will be produced by Jeff Ruhe and Mike Pearl, and directed by Roger Goodman.

For its coverage of Super Bowl XIX, ABC will parlay the expertise acquired from years of broadcasting Monday Night Football and recent technical advancements and innovations developed for its coverage of this summer's Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The equipment for the game includes a plethora of cameras and tape and replay units; a DVE, which is used for zooming action onto the screen on replays; an electronic still storage device that allows shots of individual players to be shown; and a character generator for on-air graphics.

The scoring drive graphic, which has become popular on Monday Night Football, and the super slow-mo camera used extensively in coverage of the Olympics, also will be used.

Super Bowl XIX will be carried live by 211 television stations in the United States, and will be seen in 29 foreign countries, Puerto Rico, Hong Kong, and the Virgin Islands.

Frank Gifford

Roone Arledge

Another America's Team

Jack Buck and Hank Stram of CBS Radio

ABC's Monday Night crew is used to a little friendly competition with the CBS Radio team of Jack Buck and Hank Stram, which also calls the NFL Monday night games. Today's Super Bowl will be no different. Buck will be doing the play-by-play and Stram the analysis as the CBS Radio Network carries the Super Bowl for the nineteenth consecutive year.

The game will be heard on more than 300 radio stations around the world affiliated with CBS or the American Forces radio network. More than 30 countries and 100 American ships at sea will receive the game live.

Those listening to the game will have the benefit of hearing the premier crew in sports radio. More than 12 million NFL fans listened to Buck and Stram broadcast Super Bowl XVIII last year; eight million listen to them each week during the regular season. For the Super Bowl, they will be joined by Brent Musburger, who will handle both the pregame show and halftime.

As effective as this broadcast team has proven to be in the regular season, Stram should be even more of an authority on Super Sunday. He led the Kansas City Chiefs into the first Super Bowl. And he guided the Chiefs to the Super Bowl IV championship in the last appearance by an AFL team.

Perfect Attendance

Today's game marks a reunion of a very special group of professionals: the 24 members of the media "Super Bowl Club" who have worked every Super Bowl. The club includes 16 writers, one broadcaster, and seven photographers. The writers are Si Burick, Robert Burnes, Dick Connor, Art Daley, Mel Durslag, Larry Felser, Jerry Green, Jerry Izenberg, Dave Klein, Augie Lio, Will McDonough, Norm Miller, Bob Oates, Ed Pope, Cooper Rollow, and John Steadman. The broadcaster is Canada's John Seguin. The photographers are John Biever, Vernon Biever, Malcolm Emmons, Walter Iooss, Jr., Mickey Palmer, Dick Raphael, and Tony Tomsic.

Old Heroes Never Die . . .

Super Bowl XIX today features the best teams in the NFL, but last night the league's best players were honored. At a banquet in the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, the NFL Alumni Association presented its 11 player of the year awards.

1983 honoree Eric Dickerson

The awards are given to the best running back, quarterback, tight end, wide receiver, offensive lineman, defensive lineman, linebacker, defensive back, kicker, kick returner, and special teams player. The 8,000 members of the NFL Alumni select the winners, voting only for the positions they played.

The NFL Alumni Old Hero Award—given to someone "whose life and career has exemplified the higher values the NFL Alumni teach: sportsmanship, scholarship, and citizenship"—was awarded to Lee Iacocca of Chrysler.

SHOWTIME

Super Bowl XIX gameday festivities get underway at Stanford Stadium three hours before kickoff, with NFL highlights viewable on two large Diamond Vision scoreboards located at opposite ends of Stanford Stadium. The video extravaganza will focus on the 1984 NFL season, particularly underscoring the achievements of today's competing teams.

Live entertainment follows the highlights. All 28 NFL Huddles team mascots will be featured performers, along with 112 all-star dancers and gymnasts, in a musical salute to the NFL. Today's Huddles pageantry marks the first time all 28 mascots have been on the same field at the same time. The dancers and gymnasts come from high schools and colleges throughout the western United States. Many belong to the United Spirit Association's all-star cheerleader and songleader team.

Participating in the National Anthem ceremony will be a 300-member children's choir, under the direction of Lou Magor, musical director of the San Francisco Boys' Choir. Today's choir is composed of singers from the following five Bay Area children's groups: San Francisco Boys' Chorus, Oakland Youth Chorus, San Francisco Children's Chorus, San Francisco Girls' Choir, and the Palo Alto Children's Choir.

To accompany the "Star Spangled Banner," a living star spangled banner will be formed on the field by 1,300 students representing 11 northern California high school marching bands. The "human flag" will unfurl under the direction of Bob Moorefield.

The participating high school bands and their directors are: Cupertino High School (Bob Gomez, director); San Bruno's Capuchino High School (David Martin); Concord High School (Eric Hammer); Dublin High School (John Sevigne); Pleasanton's Foothill High School (Bob Moorefield); Stockton's Lincoln High School (Art Holton); Madera High School (Ty West); Mountain View High School (Robin Use); San Mateo High (Henry Use); Santa Cruz High School (Sylvester McElroy); and Ukiah High School (Roland Neilson).

Four F-15 fighter planes will punctuate the National Anthem with a stadium flyover. "Tops in Blue" will entertain at halftime. The NFL's Huddles mascots are pregame celebrants.

As the National Anthem ends, four Air Force F-15 Eagle fighter planes will streak over the stadium.

One of the Bay Area's greatest football players, Hugh McElhenny, is this year's honored coin tosser. McElhenny, a nonpareil running back for the San Francisco 49ers from 1952-1960 (he also played for the Minnesota Vikings in 1961-62, the New York Giants in 1963, and the Detroit Lions in 1964), is legendary for his elusive running artistry. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1970.

The halftime entertainment, produced by the United States Air Force, promises some of the most memorable visuals in Super Bowl history. Titled "The World of Children's Dreams," the halftime spectacular will escort the audience through a musical fantasyland.

The show will feature the Air Force's musical entertainment group "Tops in Blue." The musical group has a 1,000-member cast made up of current Air Force personnel and their families, along with Air Force retirees from Mather Air Force Base in Sacramento, California.

The "Tops in Blue" group will perform contemporary music with brisk choreography on top of the largest piano ever constructed. The halftime performers guide the crowd through different children's fantasies such as life on the high seas as a swashbuckling adventurer, and the thrills of running away to join the circus.

There also will be a salute to the athletes who performed at the Olympic Games this summer in Los Angeles.

The Air Force conceived the idea of "Tops in Blue" more than 30 years ago. It sought to provide quality entertainment for Air Force members and their families, especially those serving in relatively isolated locations.

Each year, talent contests are held on Air Force bases. After intense competition, about 250 of the most skilled performers are invited to the finals of the Air Force's Worldwide Talent Competition. Ultimately, two 25-member casts are chosen. Both of these groups are performing on the field today.

Following the game, the Diamond Vision scoreboards will display highlights from the game, the Vince Lombardi Trophy presentation, and locker room interviews. ■

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The phone rang six times. The quarterback didn't answer. Probably one of the PR types who didn't know how to say no. He had thought the motel desk wouldn't give out his room number.

People he wanted to talk to knew his code: one ring, then hang up and ring again. He would pick up after three rings.

He doused the projector, his concentration broken by the jarring telephone.

He'd been studying extra on the weakside linebacker, his primary problem for Sunday.

He grinned, remembering. His college coach always had said, "Don't think of him as a problem, think of him as an opportunity."

This weakside linebacker was one hell of an opportunity.

He crossed to the window and drew back the drape. The sky had been overcast all day, and now the milky gray light was fading. A very unseasonal north wind sawed at the palm fronds beyond the window.

The phone rang once. After a minute, it rang again. He picked up on the third ring.

"You gonna eat?"

He recognized the flat, Delaware accent of their left guard.

"Hi, Munch."

The left guard was small, by the game's preposterous standards...just 6 foot 2 inches and 250 pounds. He was called "Munchkin." He'd been to four Pro Bowls.

The quarterback flopped on the motel bed and bunched the spongy, foam pillows behind his head.

"I'm hungry, Munch, but I don't wanna go out. I went out last night with the linebackers...we had some good seafood, but there were too many people around."

The guard grunted. "You go out with our linebackers, you could draw a crowd in the Gobi Desert. They're not what I'd call really shy."

"Never met a linebacker who was."

"I've got a cousin who lives down here. He told me about a little place that's got great barbecue...you know, one of those places where the locals go. I could bring some back."

"I'll pay provided you also can find a six-pack of very cold beer."

"You'll pay if I bring luke-warm beer...a star should never forget his supporting cast."

"Get some potato chips, Munch."

He wore a faded purple T-shirt, gray corduroy shorts, and unlaced white running shoes. Both sides of his left knee showed reminders of surgical scars.

The quarterback picked up the telephone again. A thousand miles away, his wife answered on the first ring.

"I let mine ring three times," he said. "You shouldn't be so anxious."

"I thought it was my boyfriend."

"Nope, just me."

"Hi, me. You still love me?"

"Yes, and especially because you're there and not here."

"What's that supposed to mean?"

"That it's a zoo here."

They had talked it out when they first knew they were going to Super Bowl. A lot of player wives were coming down on Friday. He had hoped she wouldn't want to. Because she knew him, she said she'd stay home with the kids.

They talked more, then he talked to both kids and hung up.

The phone rang again—the right way—just as the guard came in, laden with boxes and paper bags and an aroma of barbecue.

It was the PR man. A New York columnist was pressing for a private interview with him...now.

"I wouldn't have called you, Pete, but he's really on my case," the PR man pleaded.

The quarterback knew the columnist, and liked him well enough...he also knew that if he did one interview the word would get around that he was available.

"I can't, Doug, but tell him to wait for me in the morning...I'll stop by your room after the quarterback meeting, about 8:30."

"Thanks, Pete...appreciate it."

The Munchkin's cousin was correct. The ribs and chicken were terrific.

The quarterback gnawed a rib bone, tossed it at the wastebasket ...and missed.

"Hope you're a little sharper Sunday," the guard said.

The quarterback walked over and picked up the errant rib bone. He sat back down and took another shot at the wastebasket. He smiled at the satisfying *thunk* the bone made as it went in. Touchdown. He had caught the weakside linebacker trying to cover a running back one-on-one.

"I'm glad the press conferences are over," he said.

"Me too," the guard deadpanned. "I got asked one question Tuesday, and then I had two this morning...makes it hard to keep your focus."

"What'd they ask you?"

"How it feels to be in the spotlight."

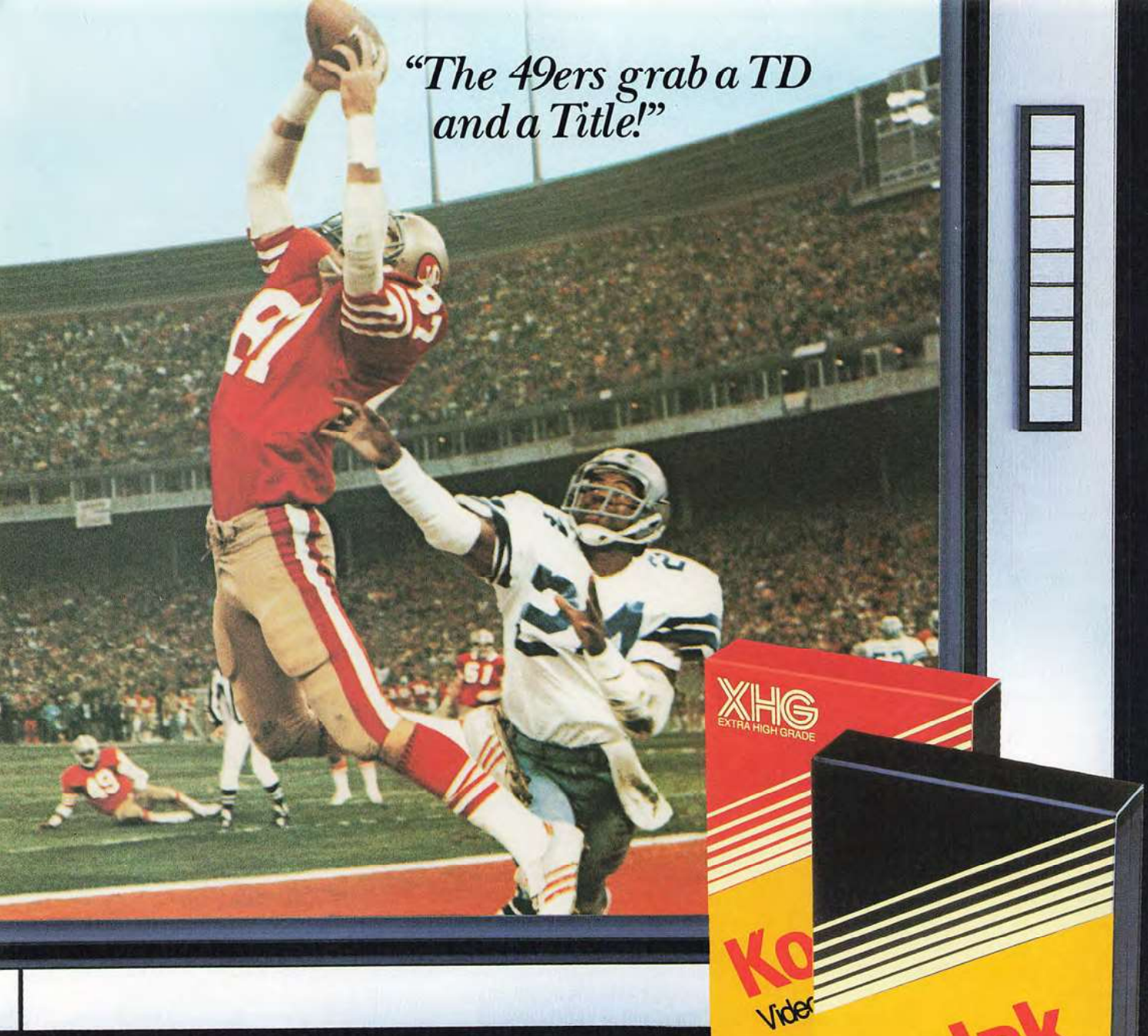
"What'd you say?"

"I said the spotlight gets pretty muted by the time it hits the guards."

The quarterback reached for the projector.

"You want to study 'em, some?" he asked.

"Hell, no," the guard answered. "But I'd better."■



The road to the Super Bowl. It's full of bone-crushing action. Of leaping catches and lunging tackles. Of blitzing linebackers and bruising runners. Of fighting nose to nose, toe to toe to the ultimate victory in the ultimate game. How could you trust moments like these to anything other than Kodak tape?

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LONG LIVE THE KING!

Hugh McElhenny Will Toss the Coin Before Super Bowl XIX

BY TED BROCK

When Hugh McElhenny finished reading an invitation he'd just received from the office of the NFL in New York, asking him to toss the coin at Super Bowl XIX, he choked up, then handed the letter to his wife Peggy, who quickly did the same. "We were both overwhelmed," says the Pro Football Hall of Fame halfback who retired in 1964, having spent most of his career with the San Francisco 49ers in the 1950s. "Of all the players who could be chosen to do this, they picked me. In the letter, Pete Rozelle said, 'We hope that it will be convenient for you to make it.' Convenient! Jesus Christ!"

McElhenny turns the corner and drives upfield, 1953.

On the telephone from Seattle, The King says he'll try to dig up that highlight film he likes to show, the one he made with Paul Hornung as the first installment of the "Living Legends" television series.

"Gee, I wonder whether I can find it," he says. "I know it's around here somewhere."

You get the feeling The King is giving you that old shoulder fake—dipping it, then taking it away, turning up and out with that high knee thrust across his body, then fending you off with his signature straight-arm. You get the feeling The King probably could walk, blindfolded, to the shelf where that highlight film sits, take it out of the case, thread it into a projector, and, still blindfolded, narrate every play as if it had happened yesterday.

They didn't call Hugh McElhenny "The King" when he was named All-America at Los Angeles's Washington High in 1947, or at Compton Junior College in 1948, or at the University of Washington from 1949-1951. They waited until it practically was an understatement. Then, in the fourth game of his rookie year with the San Francisco 49ers, McElhenny scored three touchdowns, one a 94-yard punt return that still is a club record. (He had two other touchdowns called back that day because of penalties; his broken-field adventures dramatically increased his teammates' opportunities to hold and clip.)

"I came into the locker room afterward," McElhenny says, "and our quarterback, Frankie Albert, was elated over the game. He threw me the game ball and said, 'You're now The King of the Halfbacks.' " The nickname stuck.

Other entertainers have been called "The King." They called Elvis "The King." But not in his rookie year.

Hugh McElhenny, 6 feet 1 inch, 198 pounds, played halfback for 13 NFL seasons with San Francisco (1952-1960), Minnesota (1961-62), the New York Giants (1963), and Detroit (1964).

No sentence, maybe no paragraph, ever has been written that describes the full range of his ability to carry a football. The King relates it to a dark alley, late at night, danger lurking behind unseen corners. "You've been down it during the day," he says. "You know where the inlets are, where somebody might be hiding. It's just like a football play. You know where your blockers are. You just try to find them."

Doing that sometimes took McElhenny in directions dictated solely by fear ("You don't teach that," he says), and occasionally by professional pride. In 1961, he returned to San Francisco's Kezar Stadium to face the team that had shipped him to Minnesota in that year's expansion draft. With "the best individual effort I had as a football player," McElhenny spun, cut back, faked, and dipped his way past half a dozen former teammates for a 32-yard touchdown run.

"It was kind of like I did it all by myself," he says. "I couldn't find any purple jerseys down the field, although I'm sure there were many of them."

Don Paul, the rugged linebacker who called defensive signals for the Los Angeles Rams in the 1950s, remembers how his team approached the arch rival 49ers. "We'd work first on the primary problem," Paul says. "The 49ers had two of the NFL's leading receivers, Billy Wilson and Gordy Soltau. They had Y.A. Tittle at quarterback and powerful running backs in Joe Perry and John Henry Johnson. But our number-one concern was Hugh McElhenny. Once we'd discussed how we'd try to stop him, we'd deal with the rest.

"You want a quick story? One game, I had Tittle's audibles *down pat*. He called one, and I let our defense know they were running a fake screen to our right, then throwing a screen left to McElhenny. Well, six of us surrounded that s.o.b. and sixty yards later, he was on our three-yard line. Next thing we knew, Soltau had kicked a field goal to beat us. We'd have been better off playing it straight."

Cursing McElhenny was common among opposing defenders such as Detroit's Joe Schmidt and Yale Lary, both fellow Pro Football Hall of Fame enshrinees. (McElhenny was inducted in 1970.)

"He'd come at you with power, plus that classic style," says Lary, a former defensive halfback and punter. "He'd raise his legs, give you the shoulder, take a leg away...."

Schmidt and Lary both were on the field when the 49ers, holding a 24-7 halftime lead, began the third quarter of their 1957 Western Conference playoff game with a screen pass from Tittle to McElhenny. "I remember seeing him going down the right side and thinking 'It's all over,'" Schmidt says. "We stopped him short of the goal, but I don't know how."

Ironically, it was one of McElhenny's stylistic trademarks that contributed to the Lions' salvation on that play. "The first

McELHENNY YEAR-BY-YEAR

		RUSHING					RECEIVING				
Year	Team	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
1952	San Francisco	98	684	7.0	89t	6	26	367	14.1	77	3
1953	San Francisco	112	503	4.5	33	3	30	474	15.8	71	2
1954	San Francisco	64	515	8.0	60t	6	8	162	20.3	53	0
1955	San Francisco	90	327	3.6	44	4	11	203	18.5	55t	2
1956	San Francisco	185	916	5.0	86t	8	16	193	12.1	22	0
1957	San Francisco	102	478	4.7	61	1	37	458	12.4	43	2
1958	San Francisco	113	451	4.0	34	6	31	366	11.8	59t	2
1959	San Francisco	18	67	3.7	19	1	22	329	15.0	62t	3
1960	San Francisco	95	347	3.7	38	0	14	114	8.1	45	1
1961	Minnesota	120	570	4.8	41	3	37	283	7.6	26	3
1962	Minnesota	50	200	4.0	27	0	16	191	11.9	41	0
1963	N.Y. Giants	55	175	3.2	23	0	11	91	8.3	24	2
1964	Detroit	22	48	2.2	14	0	5	16	3.2	27	0
Totals		1,124	5,281	4.7	89t	38	264	3,247	12.3	77	20

PUNT RETURNS 126 returns, 920 Yards, 7.3 Avg., 94 Long, 2 TD
KICKOFF RETURNS 83 returns, 1,921 Yards, 23.1 Avg., 55 Long, 0 TD
SCORING 60 TD, 360 Points

time he came through," Lary says, "everybody missed him, including me. I recovered and ran downfield after him. He'd been running back and forth across the field, so I was able to catch him on about the 10-yard line."

The 49ers settled for a field goal, played a suicidally cautious second half, and lost to the Lions 31-27. Detroit went on to beat Cleveland 59-14 for the NFL title.

The 49ers, a six-year-old franchise that had spent four years in the All-America Football Conference and two in the NFL, made McElhenny their first-round choice in the 1952 draft.

McElhenny was named the NFL's rookie of the year after finishing fourth among league rushers with 684 yards on 98 carries, (a 7.0-yard average). The league leader, Deacon Dan Towler of the Rams, had 894 yards and a 5.7 average. McElhenny had the league's longest run from scrimmage, 89 yards, and its longest punt return, 94 yards; both were touchdowns. He caught 26 passes for 367 yards. He finished with 10 touchdowns. He was voted all-pro. He was selected to play in the Pro Bowl (the first of six appearances). If he hadn't been, they'd have outlawed the game.

For a definitive view of McElhenny's career, though, the record book runs a poor second to the artistry he brought to the game. The telling numbers take some digging. For example, among backs who have rushed for more than 5,000 career yards (he finished his career with 5,281), McElhenny ranks fifth all-time in yards per carry with 4.70. He still owns the three longest runs from scrimmage in 49ers history—89, 86, and 82 yards, all for touchdowns.

Remember too, that during The King's nine years with the 49ers, they came close to

a championship only once. Moreover, the club's leading ground gainer was not McElhenny, but Hall of Famer Joe Perry, who in 1953 became the fourth man to rush for more than 1,000 yards in a season (McElhenny gained 503 that year). Joe Arenas, John Henry Johnson, and J.D. Smith also carried the ball for San Francisco during McElhenny's time there.

He separated his shoulder early in the 1954 season, but finished the year with 515 yards and an 8.0 average. (Perry had another great year, gaining 1,049 to become the first player to rush for more than 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons.) In 1955, he aggravated a childhood foot injury; his availability and output were halved. (At age 11, McElhenny was playing barefooted in a vacant lot when he stepped on a broken milk bottle and severed the major tendons in his right foot. The prognosis barely included walking correctly, let alone football.)

Then came 1956, The King's closest flirtation with the 1,000-yard rushing barrier. He carried the ball 185 times for 916 yards, a 5.0 average.

Football pundits have a way of cross-referencing players, one era to another. With McElhenny, going through the process is unneccessary. He could have played anytime. Especially now, when his pass-catching skills would double his productivity.

The 49ers' frustration of 1957 and their also-ran 6-6 finish in 1958 led to a coaching change that gradually minimized McElhenny's value to the club. Red Hickey replaced Frankie Albert on the San Francisco sideline in 1959, and Hickey's offense, built largely around the pass-first-run-later Shotgun formation and its three rotating quarterbacks, had little room for the "49 pitch," a quick toss to The King, sweeping wide in search of a serpentine path to the end zone, between flailing defenders. If you ever wanted to know where the term "would-be tackler" came from, you watched the men who went after McElhenny.

"The funny thing about the really great runners," Albert says, "is that even in their entrance, they amaze you. I remember that some of the 49ers' wives used to just watch him come out of the tunnel and bang his shoulder pads against the goal post, getting ready for contact. The first time he ever carried the ball for the 49ers, I threw him a pass and he took it for a touchdown."

Albert, who finished his career as a 49ers quarterback and punter in 1952 and later coached the team from 1956-58, may have been the key figure in the 49ers' decision to draft McElhenny. He got a good look at him while vacationing in Hawaii. McElhenny was working out with the West squad for the Hula Bowl, and after watching him, Albert put in a call to 49ers head coach Buck Shaw.

Albert: "Buck, he is something."

Shaw: "I've heard some negative things about him up at Washington. Kind of a wild man, they say."

Albert: "Well, if you don't want to room with him, I will, because he's that good."

McElhenny's "wild" image grew from a combination of a self-described "cocky, independent" attitude and reports, varying only in dollars and cents, that the University of Washington had paid good money to bring newlyweds Hugh and Peggy McElhenny to Seattle, outbidding the likes of Alabama, USC, Oregon, and the U.S. Naval Academy. Thus was created one of college football's most celebrated "free rides." McElhenny, the grapevine scenario said, was not averse to fun, campus hero style.

"I came to the U of W because they made it easy for me to support a wife," McElhenny says. "I got $75 a week for a job

The King at George Washington High, 1947.

where I didn't have to do anything, and I got so much a month through the alumni. In fact, I think every check I got was signed by somebody different."

The $75 a week was an improvement over the $65 a week USC had agreed to pay him for tending the flower bed in front of its Tommy Trojan statue in the spring of 1948. McElhenny had enrolled at Southern Cal that semester, with expectations of playing fullback alongside tailback Frank Gifford in the Trojans' Single Wing. But when USC athletic director Jess Hill's assurances that the check was in the mail reached the three-month mark, McElhenny checked out.

For winning the California state high school high hurdles championship and setting a national record of 14.0, Hugh McElhenny, Sr., had given his son a car. With nothing in particular planned for the summer, Hugh, Jr., grabbed a friend and the two of them set out across the country, each with $40 in his pocket, to work, travel, and explore. The jaunt ended just short of a dock in New York harbor. Faced with the chance to work aboard a cattle ship bound for Europe, the two adventurers yielded to a stronger urge—homesickness.

McElhenny returned to Los Angeles in mid-August, too late to choose a four-year school, then took his father's advice and enrolled at Compton J.C. After his All-America season and his leading role in Compton's victory in the 1948 Junior Rose Bowl, more than 60 colleges bid for McElhenny's talents. When he nearly opted for the Naval Academy, his high school sweetheart reminded him that five years' separation wasn't her idea of keeping the relationship alive. One day short of leaving for Annapolis, McElhenny saw her point and relented. Washington liked her attitude, too.

In the 20 years since his football career ended, McElhenny has traveled a typically winding path, this one through the world of public relations, with stops at Allen and Dorward in San Francisco, the 49ers' radio broadcast booth (where he was Lon Simmons's color commentator), and an unsuccessful attempt at bringing an NFL franchise to Seattle in the early 1970s (prior to the Seahawks' arrival, McElhenny did much of the legwork for a franchise to be called, coincidentally, the Kings, after King County). Currently, he is corporate advertising and public relations director for Alpac Corporation, a distributor and bottler of soft drinks in Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii.

He sees his buddy Billy Wilson several times a year, and they share some good laughs about the nine years they spent as roommates, until Wilson became a 49ers assistant. They moved McElhenny out of Wilson's room that day, and they moved him to Minnesota the following year.

"I was surprised they sold me for $15,000," McElhenny says. "It hurts your pride. It really does. I thought I was worth a great deal more."

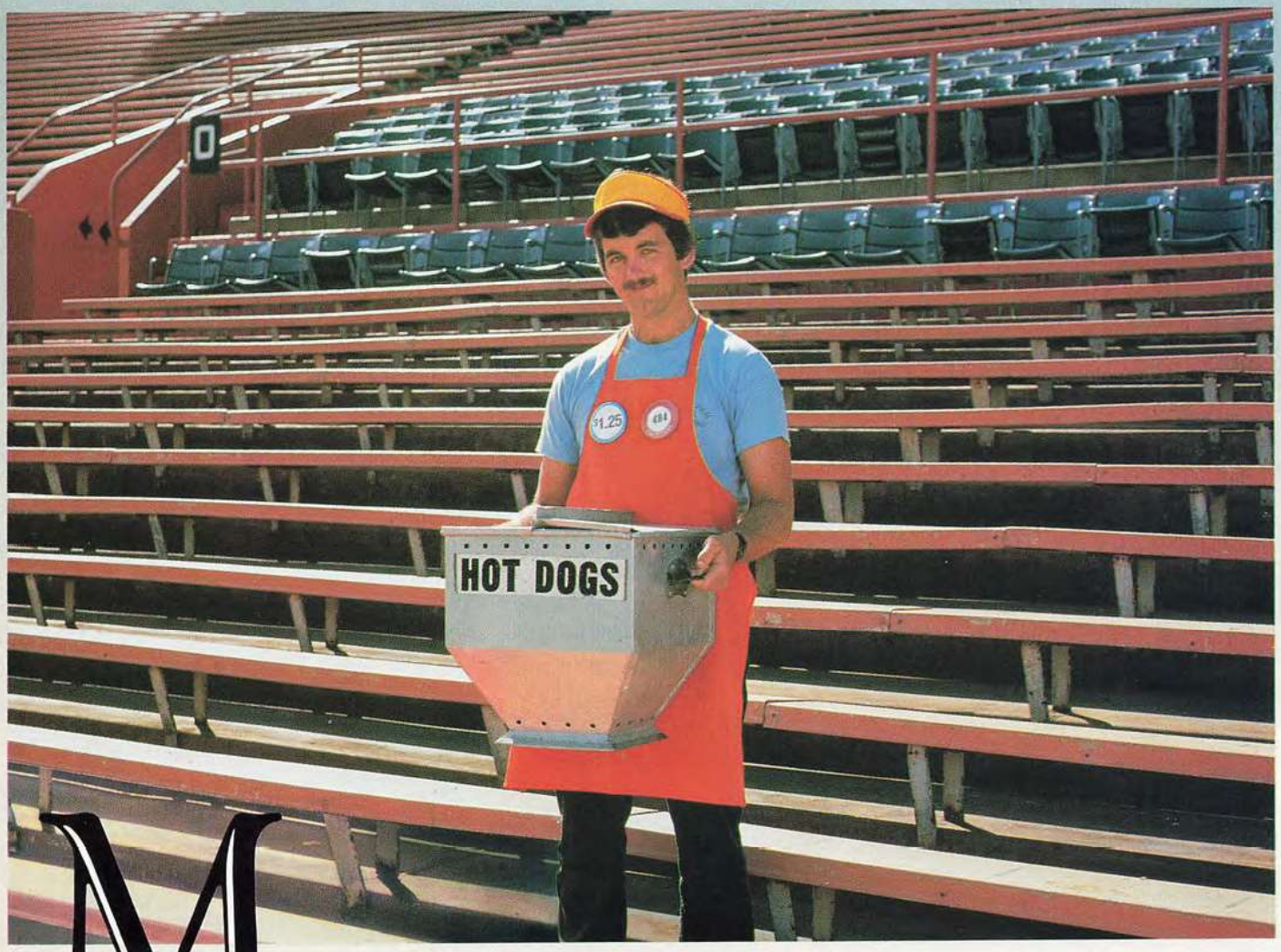
Wilson says, "I think everybody was shocked about that. But then, people didn't trade players so much in those days, the way they do now."

In the 1961 training camp of Vikings coach Norm Van Brocklin, McElhenny worked himself into peak condition. "As a running back," he says, "it was my most complete year. What's more, we were branded as a bunch of has-beens. I know I didn't think of myself as a has-been."

Has-been or not, McElhenny's knees began to report to his spirit that his time was about up. Another year with the Vikings, a season of limited duty with the 1963 Eastern Division champion New York Giants, a quiet tour with Detroit in 1964, and The King of the Halfbacks walked off.

When he retired, only two backs in the history of the game, Jim Brown and Ollie Matson, had more combined yardage.

"He's my favorite runner," says Albert. "I've seen a lot of 'em. Brown, Sayers, Payton, Warner, Dickerson. People who haven't seen McElhenny say, 'How could you compare him with these modern guys?' Well, maybe you can't compare him. Dickerson, he runs over people, runs like a bull. But he doesn't entertain me like Mac did." ■



Most evenings, Sean Donohue serves dinner to 486 hungry football fans. Politely. So he received a bottle of V.O.

The reward.

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Say That Again?

Former Pittsburgh quarterback **Terry Bradshaw** on why the Steelers won four Super Bowls during his career: "God looked down on [owner] Art Rooney and said, 'You've suffered enough, my child, and we're going to give you Joe Greene and Franco Harris and Lynn Swann and John Stallworth and [head coach] Chuck Noll... and Terry Bradshaw.' "

Los Angeles Raiders linebacker **Matt Millen**, when told before Super Bowl XVIII that Washington guard Russ Grimm had said he'd run over his own mother to win the game: "I'd run over Grimm's mother, too."

Redskins owner **Jack Kent Cooke**, challenging Raiders owner Al Davis to a Super Bowl rematch with a quotation from eighteenth-century poet John Dryden: "I am a little hurt, but not slain. Lay me down and bleed awhile. Then I'll arise to fight with you again."

Former Miami quarterback **Bob Griese** on Super Bowl media hype: "Writers and television people spend two weeks building the game up and the next four weeks tearing it down."

Raiders defensive end **Lyle Alzado**, in a promotional spot for a Tampa radio station just prior to Super Bowl XVIII: "Listen to WYNF or I'll rip your lips off."

Alzado's lips go for the silver.

Quick Hitters

Dolphins' Griese confronts Cowboys' Lilly in Super Bowl VI.

The longest loss on any one play in Super Bowl history came when Dallas defensive tackle Bob Lilly sacked Miami quarterback Bob Griese 29 yards behind the line of scrimmage in Super Bowl VI....No team ever has played a Super Bowl in its home stadium....Although San Francisco's Joe Montana and Cincinnati's Ken Anderson each ran for a touchdown in Super Bowl XVI, only one quarterback had done it in the previous fifteen: Minnesota's Fran Tarkenton, in the Vikings' 24-7 loss to Miami in Super Bowl VIII....Fewer punts took place in Super Bowl XV than any other, three by Oakland's Ray Guy and three by Philadelphia's Max Runager.

Something Happened

Last year's halftime show got low ratings in Salt Lake City.

Last January 22, Super Sunday XVIII, Easton Stevens, a supervisor for the Salt Lake City water district, was minding his post, watching the Raiders vs. Redskins, when it occurred to him. "About fifteen minutes into halftime," he said, "I thought, 'If something is going to happen, it'll happen now.' "

A few moments later, Stevens was called out to repair a broken 16-inch water main.

Now, theories are theories, but what other explanation than a halftime rush to the john—citywide—will do?

The repair worker's guess was that when the demand stopped at the end of the "super flush," the increased pressure may not have stopped as quickly, creating a "water hammer" that exploded the pipe.

The Invisible Vertical Plane

In its eighteen-year history, the Super Bowl never has had a shutout. One team, however, came perilously close to drawing the collar and, in doing so, set a record for fewest points scored—the Miami Dolphins, in Super Bowl VI. Against the Dallas Cowboys at Tulane Stadium in New Orleans on January 16, 1972, the Dolphins scored on Garo Yepremian's 31-yard second-quarter field goal, and lost to the Cowboys 24-3. Of course, the next season the Dolphins went 17-0, winning Super Bowl VII against Washington 14-7.

Crowd Pattern

Statistical oddities are fine, but stats that erupt into veritable fireworks displays are the best trivia of all. Today's example: Name the two Super Bowl teams that have had eight different receivers catch passes in a single game.

Tarkenton: looking, looking.

When Minnesota fell to Miami in Super Bowl VIII, Fran Tarkenton (18 for 28) completed passes to Chuck Foreman (5 catches), John Gilliam (4), Stu Voigt (3), Ed Marinaro (2), Bill Brown (1), Doug Kingsriter (1), Jim Lash (1), and Oscar Reed (1).

When the Los Angeles Rams lost to Pittsburgh in Super Bowl XIV, Vince Ferragamo (15 for 25) completed passes to Cullen Bryant (3), Wendell Tyler (3), Billy Waddy (3), Preston Dennard (2), Terry Nelson (2), Drew Hill (1), and Lawrence McCutcheon (1). McCutcheon himself completed a touchdown pass to Ron Smith.

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LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

SYMBOLS OF VICTORY

Few feelings can match winning a Super Bowl. According to the men who know best, one of those feelings is receiving a Super Bowl ring.

"The money's nice when you win a Super Bowl," said Washington quarterback Joe Theismann after playing on the winning team in Super Bowl XVII, "but it'll soon be gone. . . .But the Super Bowl ring is forever. That's what you're really playing for."

Nearly a thousand players from Bart Starr and Jim Taylor of Green Bay in Game I to Marcus Allen and Howie Long of Los Angeles in Game XVIII last year, have experienced the special thrill of slipping Super Bowl rings on their fingers. It is something many of the giants of the game never have done. "I'd trade a bunch of other jewelry for just one Super Bowl ring," says Merlin Olsen, the Rams' Hall of Fame defensive tackle who holds the record for most Pro Bowl appearances (14) and is now an acclaimed football broadcaster.

Following the Redskins' Super Bowl XVII victory, quarterback Theismann, a man of many words, said he wanted "the biggest, gaudiest, most conceitful ring ever made." While the Redskins spent more than double the NFL allowance of $2,400 per ring, each of which included 17 diamonds, theirs remains one of the sleeker designs in the history of Super Bowl rings.

The allowance for how much Super Bowl rings can cost is set by the league. The limit recently was raised to $3,000 per ring; that figure can be adjusted to reflect increases in costs of gold and diamonds.

A limit also is placed on the volume of diamonds used. For a first-time Super Bowl champion, it's 120 points.

Another 20 points can be added for each additional championship a franchise wins in a 10-year span. Before such limits, the (then) Oakland Raiders produced the most glittering Super Bowl rings of all. After Super Bowl XI, more than 2.6 carats of diamonds were included in each of the rings. When the Raiders won Super Bowl XV, managing general partner Al Davis said, "I can't ask these guys to accept something smaller for their second title." So the order was for rings with 3.15 carats.

The Raiders' ring from Super Bowl XVIII also is quite a fingerful. The white gold ring has 23 diamonds in all, three of them very large (representing the Raiders' three Super Bowl victories), set in black football-shaped crests. It weighs in at 31 pennyweight (a jeweler's measure), or nearly four-and-a-half times as heavy as the average high school ring.

The ring given to 49ers defensive end Lawrence Pillers after Super Bowl XVI not only was heavy, it was huge. At size 20 (the average man's ring size is 10), it was the biggest NFL championship ring ever made; a quarter easily fit inside it. Previously, the largest NFL ring was Bronko Nagurski's size 19 Pro Football Hall of Fame ring.

The competition for contracts to make Super Bowl rings is almost as keen as the struggle to reach the game itself. Ring contract finalists go at it year after year with jewelry designs instead of game plans. Three manufacturers have supplied the 18 rings to date. Josten's of Minneapolis, Minnesota, has produced 11; L.G. Balfour of Attleboro, Massachusetts, has done 4; and Lennox Awards of St. Charles, Illinois, has produced all three Raiders rings.

Each team's rings go through a number of steps from initial design concepts (often including input from owners, coaches, and players), to large-scale clay models, to the actual casting, stone setting, and polishing.

Finally comes the arrival of the rings from the manufacturer a few months after the game, a much anticipated event for members of the winning team. Of the Super Bowl XVI rings, 49ers head coach Bill Walsh says, "The players were so anxious, they didn't want to wait until training camp to get them. Players who lived in the area came to pick theirs up. We shipped the rings to some players out of town, but a few couldn't even wait that long. They flew in at their own expense."

When the Raiders were passing out rings from Game XV, veteran tight end Raymond Chester became misty-eyed

as he said, "There are things more important than Super Bowl rings—like God and family." Then looking around the room at his teammates' faces, Chester added, "But, on second thought, this *is* family."

Speaking of family, former Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw needed all four of his Super Bowl rings so he could wear one himself. Bradshaw gave the first one, from Super Bowl IX, to his father, the one from X to his older brother, and the ring from XIII to a younger brother. Bradshaw himself wears his Game XIV ring.

Players and coaches are not the only people presented with Super Bowl rings by the winning teams. The rings (or similarly styled pendants) also go to team doctors, trainers, equipment people, scouts, and front office personnel. Not to mention, of course, the owners.

When the Steelers designed their ring from Super Bowl XIV, it was smaller and had a stylish Florentine finish. "I can even wear this one," said owner Art Rooney. "With the others, I couldn't even bend my knuckle." ■

For Sterling Achievement

While Super Bowl rings are *the* symbols of individual champions, the Vince Lombardi Trophy is the classic symbol of team Super Bowl supremacy.

Designed in 1966 by Oscar Riedener of New York's Tiffany and Company, the sterling silver trophy depicts a regulation size football in kicking position on a 20-inch base with three concave sides; it weighs seven pounds. The award originally was created for Super Bowl I (then known as the AFL-NFL World Championship Game) in January, 1967. Four years later it was named for Vince Lombardi, who coached Green Bay to victories in the first two Super Bowls, and who died in September, 1970, of cancer.

Right: *NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle presents the first Super Bowl trophy to victorious Packers coach Vince Lombardi.* Below, left: *Miami's Don Shula beams behind the Lombardi Trophy his Dolphins earned in Super Bowl VII, the culmination of a perfect season.* Below, center: *Tom Landry,* sans *fedora, meets the press with the spoils of the Cowboys' Super Bowl XII victory.* Below right: *the Steelers brain trust (clockwise from top left), head coach Chuck Noll, Art Rooney, Jr., Art Rooney, Sr., and Dan Rooney, huddles up with its record four Lombardi trophies.*

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DOLPHINS VS. 49ERS

Marino vs. Montana. . . Shula vs. Walsh. . . and the Winner Is. . . .

The Expert rubbed his beefy hands together and began the process of comparing the San Francisco 49ers and the Miami Dolphins.

"Yeah," he said, "you gotta like the 49ers' defensive line. They play nine guys and they've all got strengths. And you gotta like those 49ers defensive backs. Maybe their linebackers aren't the best, but they're good enough. You really gotta give the edge to San Francisco just about everywhere on defense."

The Expert was rolling now, his arms moving to emphasize his points.

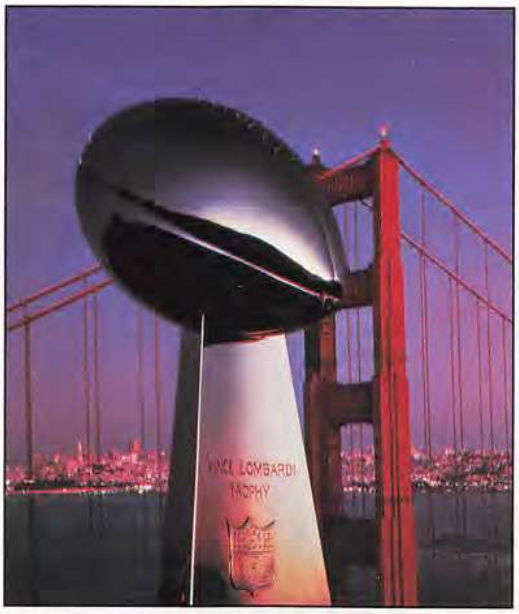
"The 49ers, they've got the best of it in the offensive line. And I like their running game better, a *lot* better. And their receivers, well, they're solid. And as for Joe Montana, what is he, the highest-rated quarterback of all time? That speaks for itself."

The testimony seemed overwhelming, the answer obvious, but someone asked the Expert who he liked in Super Bowl XIX.

The Expert paused. His arms were down, his hands at rest. The pause went on. The Expert looked at his notes. He shook his head. Finally he spoke.

"If you forced me to pick a team, I suppose I would pick the 49ers, and maybe just because where they're playing this game [Stanford Stadium] makes it a home game for them. But then I keep thinking about this guy and that guy, and I keep thinking that your guess is as good as mine."

The Expert's index finger was pointing at a mug shot of quarterback Dan Marino when he said "this guy."



The finger moved toward a mug shot of Don Shula when he said "that guy."

"It should be a *helluva* game," the Expert said.

If the San Francisco 49ers are a snowstorm covering everything in sight (17 victories in 18 games this season), the Miami Dolphins are an avalanche of destruction (averaging 32.1 points in 14 regular-season victories and 38 points in two postseason games).

The 49ers have it all, strengths across the board. They also happen to have an exceptional quarterback (Montana, who led the NFC pass ratings this year) and a brilliant coach (Bill Walsh).

The Dolphins have many strengths, too, but mostly they have a quarterback who has thrown 55 touchdown passes in 18 games, who broke the regular-season touchdown pass record (one of seven he set this year) by 12 (a total of 48), and who led the *world* in passing efficiency. They also have a coach, Marino's Svengali Shula, who has won 242 games in 22 years (trailing only George Halas's 325 in 40 years and Tom Landry's 243 in 25 years).

Perhaps Marino isn't even the best quarterback to play in the game today in Stanford Stadium. His opponent, Montana, has solid claims of his own, not the least of which is his 92.0 career rating (nearly 8 points higher than the next highest passer). Montana (developed by *his* Svengali Walsh) rarely makes mistakes (he had just 10 interceptions in 432 attempts this year); he also is the consummate winner, a man who always seems to know and have what it takes to get the job done.

Shula's Super Bowl appearance today is his record sixth. Most recently, his 1982 team lost to Washington 27-17 in Super Bowl XVII.

Meanwhile Walsh, a quiet cerebral man, took a team that had suffered through back-to-back 2-14 seasons in 1978 and 1979 to a victory in Super Bowl XVI against Cincinnati.

For what it's worth (which is not much), San Francisco never has beaten Miami, losing in 1973, 1977, 1980, and 1983, the latter two when Walsh opposed Shula. Throw all that out today.

In the words of the Expert, this one really *should* be a helluva game.

DOLPHINS

In his commentary during the AFC Championship Game, former Dolphins quarterback Bob Griese remarked that Miami's Don Shula "coaches the talent that he has." Most NFL coaches should be so lucky.

In second-year quarterback Dan Marino, Shula has the league's top-rated passer. Marino, who this season threw for an NFL-record 48 touchdowns, was an almost instant superstar. After an impressive college career at Pittsburgh, Marino was the sixth quarterback taken in the first round of the 1983 NFL draft. He initially played behind David Woodley, then came on to see action in the final 11 games of the 1983 season, nine as a starter. Despite his incomplete season, Marino became the first rookie quarterback ever voted to start in the AFC-NFC Pro Bowl. (He was unable to play due to a knee injury.)

Marino has one of the fastest (if not *the* fastest) releases and strongest arms in pro football, yet when it comes to laying the ball up for a receiver or firing a timing pattern, he's also gifted with amazing touch. He's not perfect; his scrambling ability is suspect and he sometimes forces a pass to a well-covered receiver. But balancing those "deficiencies" are his ability to read blitzes and his willingness to hold the ball while being stalked by quarterback hunters until he sees the whites of their eyes.

Marino's confidence is understandable. He's playing behind an offensive line that allowed the fewest sacks in the NFL this season (14)—or an average of less than one per game. And he's throwing to one of the deepest and most talented groups of receivers the league has seen in quite a while.

Mark Duper, last year's sophomore wide receiver sensation, now shares the spotlight with Mark Clayton, this year's sophomore *wunderkind*, who set an NFL record with 18 touchdown catches. These "Marks Brothers" are anything but funny to opposing secondaries. They're faster than Groucho's one-liners and have better moves than Harpo chasing a free meal or a society matron. Together they form the first duo in NFL history to each gain more than 1,300 yards receiving in the same season.

Then there are the Dolphins' three tight ends. Most teams, even those that frequently use a double-tight end set, would feel blessed to have *two* tight ends as complete as Miami's trio of Bruce Hardy, Dan Johnson, and Joe Rose.

If all of the above are tightly covered, Marino always has running back Tony Nathan, who's not exactly a bad alternative himself. Nathan's 61 receptions this year made him the second-leading receiver among AFC running backs. When you then consider Marino has Jimmy Cefalo and Nat Moore as backup receivers, it's no wonder that Miami was the league's number-one passing team, taking to the air on 70 percent of its scoring plays in 1984.

When they did stay on the ground, the Dolphins relied primarily on Nathan or his backfield mate, Woody Bennett, to carry the ball. Bennett also teams with massive Pete Johnson in Miami's short-yardage "Elephant" backfield.

But the Dolphins are not a ramming, jamming power team. Instead of throwing big, looping roundhouse punches, they knock opponents silly with lightning jabs, scoring as quick as a flick of Marino's wrist. (You know, float like a butterfly, sting like a bee.)

Just ask the Pittsburgh Steelers, who were sent to the mat in the AFC Championship Game by Miami's explosiveness; the Dolphins' three first-half touchdowns were scored on possessions lasting only 2:09, 1:13, and 0:33, respectively. (That game also marked Marino's sixth consecutive performance with at least three touchdown passes.)

In other words, Miami and Marino know what to do with the ball when they have it. Out of 67 chances inside opponents' 20-yard lines, the Dolphins scored 47 touchdowns and eight field goals. And in the two playoff games, Marino has passed for 683 yards, an average of 341.5. (In 16 regular-season games, he averaged 317.7.)

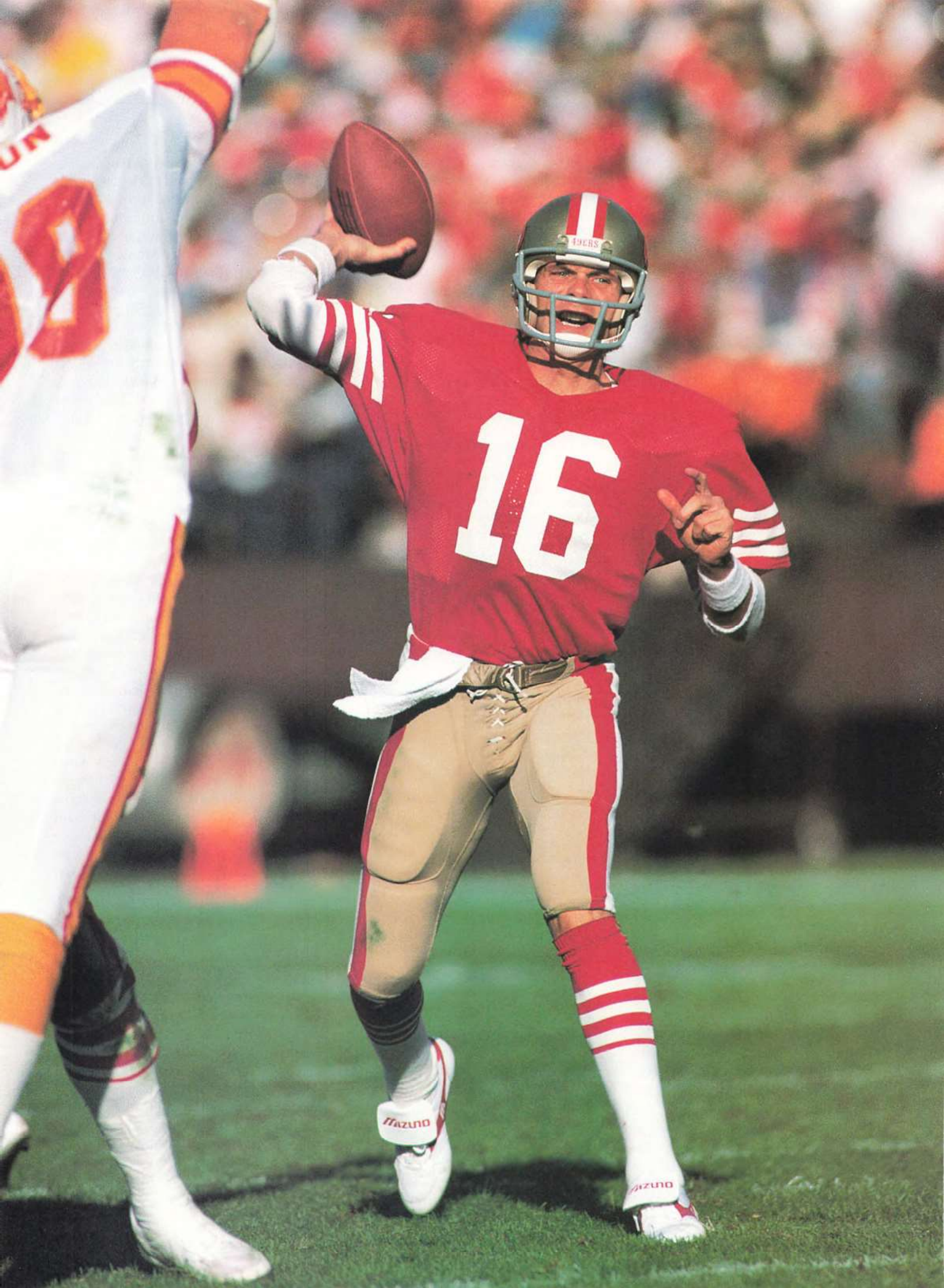
The Miami defense also knows what to do with the ball when it doesn't have it. Though overshadowed by Marino's heroics, and plagued by a mild midseason slump, the Killer B's defense is playing back up to form. It ranked a respectable sixth in the NFL against the pass, soliciting turnovers with hard-hitting abandon personified by the Blackwood brothers, safeties Glenn and Lyle.

The Dolphins' defense ranked twenty-second in the league against the run and dead last in average allowed per carry. But considering that in most of the sixteen games they won to reach the Super Bowl today their opponents had to pass and play catch-up football, it may be a moot point.

Dan Marino was sensational in his second NFL season. With his lightning-quick release, he led all NFL quarterbacks with a 108.9 rating, and set season records for pass completions (362), passing yardage (5,084), and touchdown passes (48).

The 16-2 Season of 1984

Sept. 2 Marino threw for 311 yards and five touchdowns. Duper caught six passes for 178 yards. Miami 35, Washington 17.
Sept. 9 Despite feeling dizzy and nauseous, Clayton caught five passes for 75 yards and two scores. Miami 28, New England 7.
Sept. 17 A trio of 5-foot 9-inch receivers—Duper, Clayton, and Moore—caught touchdown passes. Miami 21, Buffalo 17.
Sept. 23 After arriving Saturday night, newly acquired Johnson scored Miami's first touchdown. Miami 44, Indianapolis 7.
Sept. 30 Marino passed for 318 yards in the first half, 429 for the game; he threw three touchdowns. Miami 36, St. Louis 28.
Oct. 7 Marino's homecoming was a resounding success as the Dolphins jumped out to a 21-0 halftime lead. Miami 31, Pittsburgh 7.
Oct. 14 Rookie Carter became the first Dolphins player to rush for more than 100 yards (105) since 1982. Miami 28, Houston 10.
Oct. 21 Marino won a shootout with Eason, passing for 316 yards and four touchdowns, two to Moore. Miami 44, New England 24.
Oct. 28 Marino broke Griese's single-season team passing mark; Clayton caught two passes for scores. Miami 38, Buffalo 7.
Nov. 4 Trailing 10-7 at halftime, the Dolphins rallied as Marino passed for 422 yards. Miami 31, N.Y. Jets 17.
Nov. 11 Betters, the 6-7 defensive end, blocked a point-after try with 1:52 left to save Miami's victory. Miami 24, Philadelphia 23.
Nov. 18 The Chargers caught up with 14 points in the fourth quarter, then won it 3:17 into overtime. San Diego 34, Miami 28.
Nov. 26 Marino threw for four touchdowns, tying the single-season record (36) of Tittle and Blanda. Miami 28, N.Y. Jets 17.
Dec. 2 Marino set a new touchdown pass mark *en route* to gaining 470 yards, but the Raiders won. L.A. Raiders 45, Miami 34.
Dec. 9 Marino passed for 404 yards and four touchdowns; unstoppable Clayton caught nine for 127. Miami 35, Indianapolis 17.
Dec. 17 New NFL season records for Marino and Clayton, as Miami answered two late Cowboy scores. Miami 28, Dallas 21.
Dec. 29 The defense held Seattle to 51 yards rushing and 8 first downs; Marino threw three touchdown passes. Miami 31, Seattle 10.
Jan. 6 Miami broke open a close game with two touchdowns in the last three minutes of the first half. Miami 45, Pittsburgh 28.


49ERS
16
MIZUNO
MIZUNO

Their practice facility is located in Redwood City, five miles from Stanford Stadium. Waking up in their own beds counts as a strategic advantage.

And when the inevitable wave starts breaking around the big bowl, it will be *their* wave, *their* home crowd.

Now zoom the binoculars from the stands to the sidelines, and have a look at a familiar figure, head coach Bill Walsh, pacing quietly, recognizable by his white pullover and his thick silver hair, talking into that headphone and probably sounding just like Robert Young on "Father Knows Best." It wasn't that long ago that Walsh was running the football program at Stanford, and it was even more recently that he took the 49ers to a victory in Super Bowl XVI and became "The Genius."

Sooner or later, all this sentimentality has to give way to the hard realities of football. Let's not forget that only a year after that 26-21 conquest of Cincinnati three Januarys ago, that same Genius almost quit. Burnout, or a 3-6 record, were alternately cited.

So what about the 49ers? How did they turn things around? The key is balance. They use their entire roster better than any club in the NFL, starting with a rotation of nine defensive linemen.

The 49ers think nothing of substituting seven men for a specific play, and Miami may be the first team to see whether the revolving door can adjust to a quicker spin. Translation: The Dolphins' offensive strategists may decide to go without a huddle to catch the 49ers with their personnel down.

Once in position, however, the 49ers' defenders will be training their sights on Dan Marino, he of the rapid release and the speedy three- and five-step drop. San Francisco is normally not a big blitzing team, and in clear passing situations is more likely to rely on sack specialists Fred Dean, Dwaine Board, Gary (Big Hands) Johnson, *et al*. Pro Bowl linebacker Keena Turner, who stays in when the 49ers deploy five and six defensive backs, is treasured more for his pass coverage than his crashing-in ability.

Woe to any quarterback, however, who underestimates the Pro Bowl-rich San Francisco secondary. Even during an injury-filled season, cornerback Ronnie Lott made his presence felt. Safeties Dwight Hicks and Carlton Williamson will be joining Lott in Honolulu next week, and remaining cornerback Eric Wright is essentially their peer.

The 49ers use Dana McLemore as an extra defensive back on occasion, but his work as a return specialist marks him as the club's mercurial weapon. Rather than check the mythical punter vs. punter "matchup" between Miami's Reggie Roby and San Francisco's Max Runager, think of McLemore as the 49ers' response to the Miami punter's booming salvos.

San Francisco's kicking game has certain strengths, though neither Runager nor placekicker Ray Wersching is known for leg power. In fact, 40 yards is a safe number to remember for both men. Anything more is gravy, a bonus.

The 49ers' offense is a rich and varied package. Again, the theme is balance. If it's possible to ignore momentarily the passer rating of quarterback Joe Montana and the output of wide receiver Dwight Clark, consider some even more telling statistics.

The 49ers' receptions, by position, break down as follows: running backs 36.5 percent, wide receivers 40.7 percent, tight ends 22.7. (Miami, for purposes of comparison, has a breakdown of 20.4, 59.4, 20.1.) The numbers aren't meant to dazzle. It's just that the balance indicates the element of variety, hence surprise.

Within those categories, individual roles have emerged. Power back Roger Craig takes up as a receiver where speed back Wendell Tyler leaves off as a ball carrier. Wide receiver Freddie Solomon is the 49ers' deep touchdown threat, whereas Dwight Clark dominates between the goal lines.

Local fans and chroniclers (not to mention examiners) have learned to count all 49 49ers as key contributors, right down to the special teams recklessness of running back Bill Ring and the coverage of reserve defensive back Tom Holmoe.

Come to think of it, perhaps no region in America stares at its own wonders or congratulates itself as roundly and enthusiastically as the San Francisco Bay Area. The 49ers are no exception, having been studied, probed, and turned inside out by media and The Faithful, well past the saturation point. Like a Homecoming Queen with her perpetual smile, this is a club with a sentimental obligation to fulfill. Neighbors, friends, and lovers are counting on that smile to endure, right up to the last dance.

Joe Montana quarterbacked the 49ers to 14 of their NFL-record 15 regular-season victories this season. He ranked first among NFC, and second among NFL, passers, completing 279 of 432 passes for 3,630 yards and 28 touchdowns with only 10 interceptions.

The 17-1 Season of 1984

Sept. 2 McLemore's 55-yard punt return set up Wersching's 22-yard field goal with four seconds left. San Francisco 30, Detroit 27.
Sept. 10 The 49ers ran up a 27-3 first-half lead, then held off the Redskins' late rally. San Francisco 37, Washington 31.
Sept. 16 Cavanaugh, in for Montana, threw a fourth-quarter touchdown pass to Cooper. San Francisco 30, New Orleans 20.
Sept. 23 Cavanaugh made his first start in two years and threw three touchdown passes. San Francisco 21, Philadelphia 9.
Sept. 30 Montana came back from his rib injury. The defense made it all academic. San Francisco 14, Atlanta 5.
Oct. 8 Two touchdown passes, plus a 79-yard punt return by McLemore, won it early. San Francisco 31, N.Y. Giants 10.
Oct. 14 After an interception, a field goal by Anderson beats the 49ers with 1:42 left. Pittsburgh 20, San Francisco 17.
Oct. 21 Montana fattened up his average, completing 25 of 35 for 356 yards and three touchdowns. San Francisco 34, Houston 21.
Oct. 28 With many flu victims, the 49ers got well fast against the Rams in Anaheim. San Francisco 33, L.A. Rams 0.
Nov. 4 Montana's four-yard touchdown pass with 1:39 left eased the sting of four interceptions. San Francisco 23, Cincinnati 17.
Nov. 11 The Browns lost the opening kickoff, and the game. Montana and Craig had two scores each. San Francisco 41, Cleveland 7.
Nov. 18 Lott went out with a shoulder separation, but pass rusher Dean returned with gusto. San Francisco 24, Tampa Bay 17.
Nov. 26 Montana threw two touchdown passes as the 49ers clinched the NFC West title. San Francisco 35, New Orleans 3.
Dec. 2 Six turnovers and a blocked punt set the theme for the day, as the defense burned the Falcons. San Francisco 35, Atlanta 17.
Dec. 8 Touchdown runs by Harmon and Ring prompted Walsh to say, "I have to smile." San Francisco 51, Minnesota 7.
Dec. 14 The 49ers became the NFL's first team ever to win 15 regular-season games. San Francisco 19, L.A. Rams 16.
Dec. 29 With a 14-0 first-quarter lead, the 49ers put the game on cruise control. San Francisco 21, N.Y. Giants 10.
Jan. 6 The 49ers' defense played as if it, not the Bears' unit, was statistically the NFL's best. San Francisco 23, Chicago 0.

RUSHING

In 1982, on the way to their Super Bowl XVII appearance against the Washington Redskins, the Dolphins averaged more rushing plays per game than any team in the NFL and had the league's third-best ground attack.

That was before Dan Marino.

This year's Dolphins were sixteenth in the NFL in rushing and the ground game accounted for only 28 percent of Miami's league-leading 6,936 yards total offense.

"Our philosophy is completely different than two years ago," Don Shula says. "We're throwing the ball—that's the basis of our offense, utilizing the strength of Marino. But I still believe we have to have a running game."

The tragic death of David Overstreet, who was killed in an automobile accident last June, and a knee injury to Andra Franklin in Week Two against the Patriots, forced Shula to do a quick reconstruction of his rushing attack.

Woody Bennett, more noted for his blocking ability, ended the regular season as the Dolphins' leading rusher with 606 yards on 144 carries (he had run the ball 134 times in five previous NFL seasons).

Bennett and the titanic 250-pound Pete Johnson, who was obtained in a trade with the San Diego Chargers after Franklin was injured, give Miami its short-yardage power. Between them, they scored 16 touchdowns (3 of Johnson's came with the Chargers) for a *total* of 28 yards (the longest was a four-yarder by Bennett).

Tony Nathan and Joe Carter supply the Dolphins' outside running dimension. Shula calls Nathan "one of the best all-around backs that you'll see in the National Football League. He can do everything." Nathan was second to Bennett in rushing, and shines most brightly as a receiver.

Carter, a rookie fourth-round draft pick from Alabama, gained 290 of his season total of 495 yards during a three-game span in October. He had Miami's only 100-yard rushing performance of the season—the team's first since 1982—when he ran for 105 yards on 13 carries against Houston.

Clearing the way for the backs are center Dwight Stephenson, guards Ed Newman and Roy Foster, and tackles Jon Giesler and Cleveland Green—the hidden heroes of Miami's vaunted offense. Stephenson and Newman, who will start in next week's Pro Bowl, are the most proficient run blockers.

One of today's most interesting matchups will involve Stephenson, considered by many experts to be the NFL's best center, against the 49ers' nose tackles. "You've got to be strong down the middle, and Dwight's as strong as they come," Shula says. "We think we've got the best there is."

RUSHING

	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Bennett	144	606	4.2	23	7
Nathan	118	558	4.7	22	1
Carter	100	495	5.0	35	1
P. Johnson (SD-Mia)	87	205	2.4	9	12
Franklin	20	74	3.7	8	0
Clayton	3	35	11.7	30	0
Moore	1	3	3.0	3	0
Strock	2	−5	−2.5	0	0
Marino	28	−7	−0.3	10	0

Tony Nathan is one of the league's finest all-purpose running backs.

Woody Bennett's power and speed produced eight touchdowns.

RUSHING

All right, who were San Francisco's running backs in Super Bowl XVI? Stumped? Not many other people will remember, either. Three years ago, the 49ers won the championship without a dangerous running attack. That has changed.

The 49ers enter Super Bowl XIX with one of the most successful and dangerous ground games in the NFL. This is a team known for the pass, but also one that averaged 4.62 yards per carry, second only to the Los Angeles Rams. The 49ers also finished third in the NFL in total rushing yardage.

The big difference in the rushing games of San Francisco's two Super Bowl teams has been the acquisition of two players: Wendell Tyler from the Rams, and Roger Craig through the draft.

In 1984, Tyler set a team record and was fifth in the NFC with 1,262 yards. His wide-angle vision and smooth acceleration allowed him to pop through quick-opening holes and into enough secondaries for a 5.1-yard average.

Craig is more of an inside power runner, with a low body lean through the line that makes him hard to bring down.

Tyler and Craig, and reserves Derrick Harmon and Bill Ring, have made their yards behind an offensive line that is second to none in the NFL. Center Fred Quillan, right guard Randy Cross, and right tackle Keith Fahnhorst (each of whom was selected for this year's Pro Bowl) are joined up front by left guard John Ayers and left tackle Bubba Paris.

In the AFC Championship Game, the Steelers ran inside successfully against the Dolphins, and the 49ers might try to duplicate that success between the tackles. The most logical place to attack is behind Fahnhorst, who has developed into perhaps the NFL's premier run-blocking tackle. Wide splits on the offensive line could create gaps in the Dolphins' 3-4, allowing Tyler to break through and use his cutback abilities.

San Francisco also can gain an advantage by throwing a number of different looks at Miami. In the NFC Divisional Playoff Game with the Giants, the 49ers went to an unbalanced line, in which Paris lined up next to Fahnhorst, and the run followed the two tackles.

And they have more tricks up their sleeves. Against the Chicago Bears in the NFC Championship Game, the 49ers unveiled their "Angus" set, in which reserve guard Guy McIntyre lined up in the backfield and led either Tyler or Craig through the hole. The 49ers even ran a little option football, with wide receiver Freddie Solomon lining up at quarterback and pitching out. Maybe most people don't consider that much of a threat, but when Solomon was at the University of Tampa, he set the NCAA record for yards rushing by a quarterback (3,299). So maybe it is.

RUSHING

	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Tyler	246	1262	5.1	40	7
Craig	155	649	4.2	28	7
Harmon	39	192	4.9	19	1
Ring	38	162	4.3	34	3
Montana	39	118	3.0	15	2
Solomon	6	72	12.0	47	1
Cooper	3	13	4.3	7	0
Monroe	3	13	4.3	7	0
Runager	1	−5	−5.0	−5	0
Cavanaugh	4	−11	−2.8	−1	0

Wendell Tyler's 1,262 yards ranked fifth among NFC rushers in 1984.

Roger Craig helps spark the 49ers' offense as a rusher and receiver.

PASSING

The challenge for the 49ers is simply stated: Stop Dan Marino. Easier said than done.

Few superlatives have been spared in describing Marino's incredible array of talents. He has the quickest release this side of Joe Namath, he has the ability to instantly read even the most complex coverages, he has a phenomenal touch, and he's a winner (''He's not afraid to lose,'' Don Shula says).

If there's anything questionable about Marino, it's his mobility. A scrambler he's not. But he doesn't have to be. His short dropbacks (sometimes with as few as three steps) and that release diminish the importance of running ability.

Marino had a dream season in 1984. He rewrote the Miami record book and put his stamp on seven single-season NFL passing marks, including most touchdown passes (48), completions (362), passing yards (5,084), and 400-yard games (four).

The contributions of the offensive line in all of the aerial fireworks cannot be overlooked. ''The thing that makes this team so tough,'' says Buffalo coach Kay Stephenson, ''is that you can never get the big sack.''

Credit that to the protection afforded Marino by center Dwight Stephenson, guards Roy Foster and Ed Newman, and tackles Jon Giesler and Cleveland Green. They permitted an NFL-low 14 sacks in 1984, and their ability to hold off the 49ers' pass rush will be critical.

PASSING

	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	TDs	Int.	Rating
Marino	564	362	5084	64.2	48	17	108.9
Strock	6	4	27	66.7	0	0	76.4
Jensen	1	1	35	100.0	1	0	158.3
Clayton	1	0	0	0.0	0	1	0.0

RECEIVING

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Clayton	73	1389	19.0	65	18
Duper	71	1306	18.4	80	8
Nathan	61	579	9.5	26	2
Moore	43	573	13.3	37	6
D. Johnson	34	426	12.5	42	3
Hardy	28	257	9.2	19	5
Cefalo	18	185	10.3	25	2
Jensen	13	139	10.7	20	2
Rose	12	195	16.3	34	2
Carter	8	53	6.6	15	0
Bennett	6	44	7.3	20	1
P. Johnson (S.D.-Mia.)	2	7	3.5	7	0

The receivers? The most imposing threats to the 49ers' secondary are fast Mark Clayton and faster Mark Duper. Both had more than 1,300 yards in receptions. And Clayton, who makes acrobatic catches look routine, had an NFL-record 18 touchdown catches.

Tight ends Bruce Hardy, Dan Johnson, and Joe Rose are sure-handed and give Marino sizable targets on short- and medium-range passes.

And then there are veterans such as Tony Nathan, the fifth-leading pass catcher among NFL running backs in 1984; Nat Moore, the leading receiver in Miami history; Jimmy Cefalo, who caught a 76-yard touchdown pass in Super Bowl XVII; and versatile Jim Jensen, the third-string quarterback who doubles as a receiver.

The 49ers also have to be wary of the Dolphins' gimmick plays. In the AFC Championship Game, Nathan threw his first two passes of the season, including one to Marino from Shotgun formation. Jensen and Clayton also had pass attempts during the regular season.

Mark Clayton set a new NFL record with 18 touchdown catches in 1984.

Mark Duper made 71 receptions despite frequent double coverage.

PASSING

Bill Walsh isn't likely to forget that a key to being in his second Super Bowl is his development of the most sophisticated passing game in the NFL.

Walsh doesn't endorse a bombs-away style of play. He likes a ball-control, short-to-medium-range passing attack that starts with Joe Montana. In 1984, Montana, the top-rated passer for a career in NFL history, threw for 3,630 yards, an 8.40-yard average gain per attempt, 28 touchdowns, and a 2.3 percent interception rate. Not surprisingly, he led the NFC in passing, although his 102.9 rating points weren't far ahead of backup Matt Cavanaugh's 99.7 points.

Montana not only is a superior passer from the pocket, he is endowed with the ability to scramble and throw on the run. He also has an uncanny field sense, is a deceptive ball handler, and runs Walsh's balanced offense to such perfection that the 49ers ranked second in the NFL not only in average yards gained per pass, but per rush as well.

Against the Dolphins, Montana's bread-and-butter receiver is likely to be Dwight Clark. The 49ers threw more to running back Roger Craig in the regular season (71 receptions to Clark's 52). However, Clark has the size, the fluid patterns, and the hands to be successful against cornerback William Judson, particularly on patterns to the inside. Clark could see a lot of action early in the game, when the 49ers like to run up quick leads; during the regular season, San Francisco outscored its opponents 110-29 in the first quarter.

On the other side, Freddie Solomon, Renaldo Nehemiah, and Mike Wilson (who is one of the top reserves on this, or any, team) each have enough quickness to beat a secondary whose weakness is lack of speed.

Montana is likely to get time to throw, because the 49ers led the NFC in fewest quarterback sacks allowed (despite tight ends Earl Cooper and Russ Francis being more effective as receivers than blockers). But should Montana be pressured, Craig is his top "dump-off" target and has shown notable ability to chase down hastily thrown passes. Wendell Tyler's receptions dropped somewhat as his rushing yardage increased in 1984, but he has caught almost 200 passes in his career.

One more quick reminder (or a passing note): Walsh is a master of the trick play. So don't forget that Clark and running back Derrick Harmon threw passes this year, and Solomon has thrown 14 in his career.

PASSING

	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	TDs	Int.	Rating
Montana	432	279	3630	64.6	28	10	102.9
Cavanaugh	61	33	449	54.1	4	0	99.7
Harmon	2	0	0	0.0	0	0	39.6
D. Clark	1	0	0	0.0	0	0	39.6

RECEIVING

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Craig	71	675	9.5	64	3
D. Clark	52	880	16.9	80	6
Cooper	41	459	11.2	26	4
Solomon	40	737	18.4	64	10
Tyler	28	230	8.2	26	2
Francis	23	285	12.4	32	2
Nehemiah	18	357	19.8	59	2
Wilson	17	245	14.4	44	1
Monroe	11	139	12.6	47	1
Frank	7	60	8.6	21	1
Ring	3	10	3.3	15	0
Harmon	1	2	2.0	2	0

Freddie Solomon caught 10 scoring passes.

Dwight Clark's 880 yards led 49ers receivers.

Earl Cooper is a multi-talented tight end.

RUSHING DEFENSE

A look at the NFL's final defensive statistics for the regular season produces at least one startling note: The AFC champion Dolphins finished twenty-second in the league against the run, yielding an NFL-high 4.71 yards per carry. That's right, greater even than the 4.70 allowed by the Minnesota Vikings. Conversely, the 49ers, with their own well-founded reputation for a potent passing attack, were the league's third-most proficient team in rushing yardage.

One of the major dilemmas, then, facing Miami coach Don Shula and defensive coordinator Chuck Studley will be how to keep the 49ers from quickly establishing their strong running game, which could loosen up the Dolphins' secondary and make them even more vulnerable to quarterback Joe Montana's pinpoint passing.

The Dolphins show many variations in their basic 3-4 defense, which is anchored by five-time Pro Bowler Bob Baumhower at nose tackle (one of nine defensive starters whose last names begin with the letter "B"—hence the nickname Killer B's). He's flanked by two other veterans of Miami's Super Bowl XVII team: 6-foot 7-inch, 265-pound Doug Betters at left end, and 6-6, 255-pound Kim Bokamper. Betters may be the Dolphins' most consistent defensive lineman. His side is particularly difficult to attack because of the support provided by outside linebacker Bob Brudzinski, who also appeared in Super Bowls XIV (with the Rams) and XVII. To help counteract the San Francisco running game, the Dolphins may make greater use of Mike Charles (back from injured reserve), who alternates with Bokamper and is considered especially effective against the rush. Opposite Brudzinski at right outside linebacker is Charles Bowser, who has good speed but may be vulnerable when the run comes directly at him.

Two more "B's" provide solid run support at inside linebacker: rookie Jay Brophy and second-year man Mark Brown. Brophy, who replaced veteran A.J. Duhe as the latter recovered from offseason knee and shoulder surgery, has a rare opportunity to play on a collegiate national championship team (Miami, 1983) and a Super Bowl champion in consecutive seasons. Brown has been a pleasant surprise. Only a ninth-round draft choice from Purdue in 1983, he beat out veteran Earnie Rhone this season and finished as the team's leading tackler. The Dolphins use Duhe both as a down lineman and linebacker, and he played well enough in a reserve role to be picked to appear in his first AFC-NFC Pro Bowl.

The Blackwood brothers, strong safety Glenn and free safety Lyle, are Miami's biggest assets in the secondary against the run. Both are tough and smart, making up for any shortcomings in speed with guile and hard hitting. Mike Kozlowski and Paul Lankford provide depth at safety and are used regularly when the Dolphins line up five or six defensive backs. On the corners, starters Don McNeal and William Judson are considered susceptible against physical backs, such as the 49ers' Roger Craig.

Bob Baumhower, a five-time Pro Bowl tackle, is a force on the line.

A.J. Duhe's return from an injury fortified Miami's linebacking corps.

RUSHING DEFENSE

Shutting down a rushing attack that is integrated with Dan Marino's passing circus may not seem like much of an issue. But it is.

In addition to Marino's prolific aerial output in the two playoff games leading to today's Super Bowl, the Dolphins averaged almost 140 yards per game on the ground. Marino's timely use of his running backs kept opposing defensive lines just cautious enough to allow him to throw seven touchdown passes in those two games. So stopping the run becomes a necessary corollary to stopping Marino and Miami's high-powered passing game.

This important task falls upon the shoulders of a surprisingly small contingent of 49ers players. Situation substitution is a way of life in the NFL, but no team in football uses all of its players more effectively than the 49ers. The defensive line is the prime case in point. Nearly all of the 49ers' defensive linemen see action in every game. That way, as the second half wears on, the 49ers' still-fresh defensive linemen frequently can make big plays against normally quicker (but now tired) opposing offensive backs.

Although all of the linemen play, it is the three starters who will be most responsible for stopping Miami's ground attack.

The heart and soul of that unit, and the most consistent player on the 49ers' defense, is right end Dwaine Board. Board not only turned in 10 quarterback sacks in 1984, he led the defensive line with 48 tackles and caused two fumbles. At the other end Jeff Stover lately has started, but Lawrence Pillers also is effective against the run. Nose tackle Manu Tuiasosopo plays a position in which one normally forces, more than actually gets in on, tackles. Nonetheless he was second on the defensive line with 41 tackles.

To a great extent, the 49ers' defense is predicated on the linemen occupying the offensive blockers on rushing downs, allowing the linebackers to make most of the tackles. Inside linebacker Riki Ellison led the team with 95 tackles and four forced fumbles, while outside linebacker Keena Turner and Jack Reynolds, Ellison's partner on the inside, also finished near the top in tackles. Turner has been credited this year by Walsh as being the most valuable player on the 49ers' defense, while Reynolds has been a spiritual leader since being picked up from the Rams in 1981. The fourth starter is Dan Bunz. Two young linebackers, rookie Todd Shell and second-year man Mike Walter, also are very effective against the run, with Shell actually finishing ahead of Bunz in tackles.

The San Francisco secondary—one of the NFL's very best—also plays a significant role against the rush. Ronnie Lott, a four-time Pro Bowl selection who plays both safety and cornerback, makes up for some pass defense weaknesses by hitting like a linebacker. He is perhaps the top defensive back in the NFL at forcing the run. Strong safety Carlton Williamson is another contributor. He was third on the team with 89 tackles and forced two fumbles.

Riki Ellison's 95 tackles topped the 49ers.

Dwight Hicks (22) and Carlton Williamson are as troublesome to enemy runners as to receivers.

PASSING DEFENSE

After giving up 234 yards to Seattle's Dave Krieg and 312 yards to Pittsburgh's Mark Malone in its two playoff games thus far, the Dolphins' pass defense now must brace for what figures to be its toughest test yet: San Francisco's Joe Montana, the NFC's top-rated passer in 1984, and his gifted and deep brigade of receivers. Miami must contend not only with Montana's accurate arm, but his ability to resourcefully scramble out of the pocket and either throw on the move or keep the ball and run for extra yardage.

At a time when more and more teams around the NFL are blitzing, due primarily to liberalized pass-protection rules making it more difficult for normal defenses to reach the quarterback, the Dolphins have, for the most part, resisted the tendency. That doesn't figure to change against the 49ers, what with Montana's great mobility and his effective use of short passes to running back Roger Craig, San Francisco's leading receiver (71 catches) during the regular season.

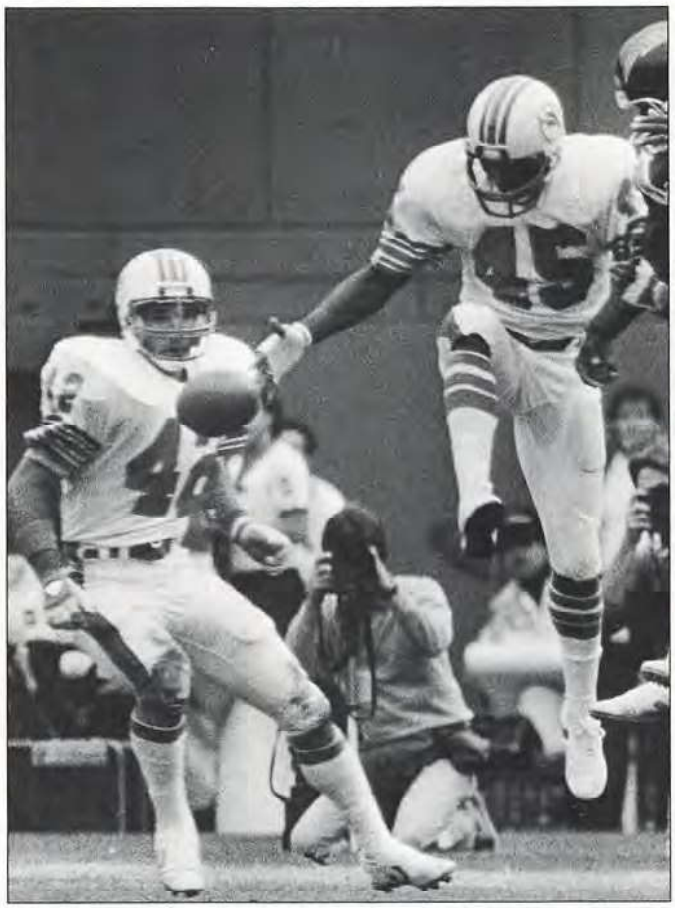
Miami will need to pressure Montana with its talented defensive line. Left end Doug Betters was sixth in the AFC in quarterback sacks with 14 and, at 6 feet 7 inches, is a difficult impediment to throw over. He'll be matched against the 49ers' Pro Bowl right tackle Keith Fahnhorst in one of the game's most intriguing subplots. Another key battle in the pits will feature Miami nose tackle Bob Baumhower and San Francisco center Fred Quillan, both of whom were selected to the Pro Bowl. Alternating right ends Kim Bokamper and Mike Charles also are effective pass rushers. Charles underwent arthroscopic knee surgery earlier this season.

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
G. Blackwood	6	169	28.2	50	0
Judson	4	121	30.3	60	1
McNeal	3	41	13.7	30	1
L. Blackwood	3	29	9.7	15	0
Lankford	3	25	8.3	22	0
B. Brown	1	53	53.0	53	0
Kozlowski	1	26	26.0	26	0
Duhe	1	7	7.0	7	0
Sowell	1	7	7.0	7	0
Brudzinski	1	0	0.0	0	0

On those occasions when the Dolphins do blitz, outside linebackers Charles Bowser and Bob Brudzinski usually are the ones to watch. Their matchup with the 49ers' big, active tight end, Russ Francis, could be significant. Another key Dolphins pass defender is linebacker A.J. Duhe, who has been slowed by a series of injuries but still is capable of creating havoc in zone coverage and as a pass-rushing end.

The Dolphins' principal pass-defense formation is the zone. Against the versatile 49ers receivers, featuring Dwight Clark, Freddie Solomon, Renaldo Nehemiah, Craig, and Francis, Miami can be expected to utilize five and six defensive backs in passing situations, especially if it can first contain the 49ers' effective ground game. Against Pittsburgh in the AFC Championship Game, safeties Glenn and Lyle Blackwood and right cornerback William Judson intercepted passes in key situations. When the Dolphins use extra defensive backs, as they often do, safeties Mike Kozlowski and Paul Lankford are rotated in.



Robert Sowell (45) and Lyle Blackwood help patrol Miami's secondary.

Doug Betters, no friend of quarterbacks, had 14 regular-season sacks.

PASSING DEFENSE

The 49ers' pass defense is in tough. Meeting the challenge of Dan Marino and Co. will take more than simply hanging out the Pro Bowl credentials of a talent-rich defensive backfield and trotting designated pass rusher Fred Dean onto the field when needed.

San Francisco would prefer to line up in zone coverage from a 3-4 alignment, but will go to some form of Nickel coverage when necessary. The 49ers used Nickel coverage almost as often as their zones, about 30 percent of the time.

In passing situations—which really is anytime where Marino is concerned—the substitutions to look for are defensive end Fred Dean and backs Jeff Fuller and Tom Holmoe, who come in for linebackers Jack Reynolds, Dan Bunz, and Riki Ellison. Keena Turner's Pro Bowl selection is founded on his versatility against the pass and the run; in passing situations he gets help from rookie linebacker Todd Shell and Mike Walter. (If Marino chooses to throw on first down, he can take advantage of the probability that Bunz, not quick afoot, will be faced with covering Tony Nathan out of the backfield—a mismatch.)

In Nickel coverage, the two deep men, safeties Carlton Williamson and Holmoe, give the other four or five defensive backs zone help. Those four or five then must deal with Miami's stable of receivers. One of the more interesting man-to-man matchups: cornerback Ronnie Lott vs. wide receiver Mark Duper or Mark Clayton. This could be the battle of the day. Lott, known as a fierce hitter who can handle anything thrown in front of him, has a problem pivoting, accelerating, and catching up. To deal with the speedy Duper, the 49ers may switch Lott with free safety Dwight Hicks. (In the Nickel, Hicks usually is the hardest worker on the field, coming up for bump-and-run duty against a wide receiver or tight end lined up in the slot.) An important consideration here is whether Hicks's ankle injury has healed completely.

Then there's cornerback Eric Wright vs. Duper or Clayton. Wright presents the flip-side of Lott, in that he has a tendency to give a softer cushion underneath but is excellent at pivoting and accelerating.

A three-man pass rush won't do the 49ers much good if they're planning to get to Marino. Likewise, if he's operating out of the Shotgun, the 49ers have to be in Nickel coverage, i.e., a four-man line with the two-deep zone.

San Francisco's pass rush got a big lift when Dean signed late in the season and returned to his old role. But don't count out the contributions of Dwaine Board, Gary (Big Hands) Johnson, Jim Stuckey, or the other five down linemen in the rotation.

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Turner	4	51	12.8	21	0
Lott	4	26	6.5	15	0
Shell	3	81	27.0	53	1
Hicks	3	42	14.0	29	0
McLemore	2	54	27.0	54	1
Williamson	2	42	21.0	26	0
J. Fahnhorst	2	9	4.5	9	0
Wright	2	0	0.0	0	0
Fuller	1	38	38.0	38	0
Bunz	1	2	2.0	2	0
M. Clark	1	0	0.0	0	0

Ronnie Lott has been one of the NFL's top defensive backs since 1981.

Dwaine Board provides menace, pressure, sacks; he had 10 in 1984.

SPECIAL TEAMS

No weapon in Miami's special teams arsenal will intimidate San Francisco, except the punting of Reggie Roby.

Kicker Uwe von Schamann had a below-par season; kick returner Fulton Walker was only average, ranking ninth among AFC punt and kickoff returners. Walker, who scored the only touchdown on a kickoff return (and the longest play) in Super Bowl history in Game XVII, a 98-yarder, broke no long runs for touchdowns this season. His longest kickoff return was 41 yards and his longest punt return 33. His average kickoff return went for 21.3 yards and his average punt return was only 8.0. In fact, the Dolphins' kickoff returners ranked last in the NFL. The punt returners fared better, ranking seventh in the league.

Roby, however, is a another story. With him, Miami will carry a big edge in punting into the Super Bowl. Roby not only kicks for distance, his punts hang in the air like the Goodyear blimp. He was the best in the NFL in net yards per punt with a 38.1 average.

The problem is, the high-powered Miami offense doesn't give Roby a lot of opportunities. But when he does get the call, the Dolphins can count on him to produce. Roby's gross average was 44.7 yards, but he punted only 51 times. He also did not have a punt blocked all season. And with his remarkable hang times, "suicide squad" performers such as Jim Jensen, Eddie Hill, Mike Kozlowski, and Paul Lankford can get downfield to give Miami excellent coverage. The Dolphins ranked eleventh in the league in punt coverage and seventeenth in kickoff coverage.

Von Schamann was not called upon often either. Though he had just 19 field goal tries all year, he connected on only nine of them—mostly from close range. He was 0-for-7 from beyond 37 yards. His lack of success this year could have a bearing in a close game if coach Don Shula is forced to make a decision on whether to go for a mid-range (40-yard) field goal attempt or to opt for a punt or fourth-down gamble.

One thing the Dolphins can rely on in their kicking game is an accurate center-snap from dependable Jeff Toews.

Though there doesn't seem to be any game-breaking magic in the Miami special teams, Shula has an ace left to play if circumstances call for it—Mark Clayton, the record-setting wide receiver, is also a dangerous return man.

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Touch-backs	Inside 20	Long
Roby	51	2281	44.7	10	15	69

PUNT RETURNS

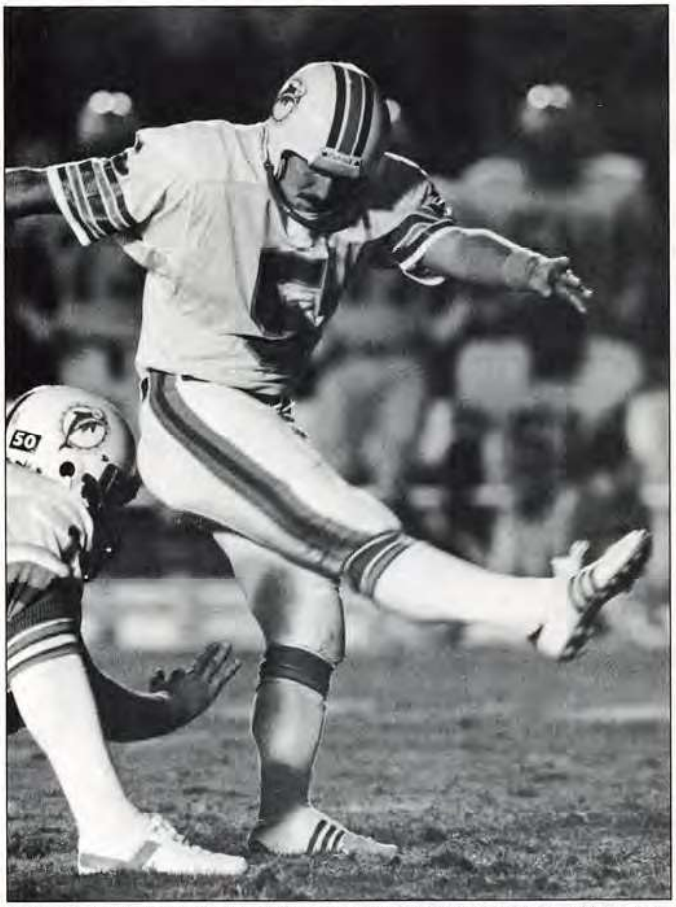
	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Walker	21	169	8.0	33	0
Clayton	8	79	9.9	22	0
Heflin	6	76	12.7	37	0
Kozlowski	4	41	10.3	20	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Walker	29	617	21.3	41	0
Heflin	9	130	14.4	26	0
Kozlowski	2	23	11.5	12	0
Clayton	2	15	7.5	14	0
Hill	1	14	14.0	14	0
Duhe	1	0	0.0	0	0

FIELD GOALS

	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
von Schamann	0-0	7-7	2-5	0-4	0-3	9-19



Uwe von Schamann had problems on field goals longer than 30 yards.

Reggie Roby's booming punts were returned for an NFL-low 138 yards.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Everyone will be expecting big plays from the 49ers' offensive and defensive units, but don't be too surprised if some of the game's biggest plays come from San Francisco's special teams.

The player most likely to create some excitement for the 49ers is punt returner Dana McLemore. This season McLemore led the NFC in punt-return yards (521) and finished second in average per return (11.6). His 79-yard touchdown against the Giants in Week Six kept a streak alive: McLemore now has returned a punt for a touchdown in each of his three seasons with San Francisco. In the Championship Game against Chicago, he continually gave San Francisco good field position when he returned four punts for a total of 69 yards.

The kickoff return duties are handled by reserve running backs Carl Monroe and Derrick Harmon. Monroe finished ninth in the NFC with a 20.8-yard average on 27 returns, and Harmon ran back 13 for an outstanding 27.5 average. As a team, the 49ers ranked second in the NFL with a 22.1 average.

Kicker Ray Wersching led the NFL in scoring this year with 131 points. He connected on all 56 of his extra points and was good on 25 of 35 field goals (71.4 percent). His 53-yarder in the opening game against Detroit was the longest of his career. Always known as one of the league's most consistent placekickers, Wersching has been typically productive over the last two regular seasons, making 50 of 65 field goal attempts (76.9 percent). Wersching is reliable in the clutch, too; in Super Bowl XVI he tied a record when he made all four of his field goal attempts.

Punter Max Runager, who was acquired as a free agent before the third game of the season, finished seventh in the NFC with a 41.8-yard average. His net average was 33.8, which ranked eighth in the NFC. He punted the ball only 56 times (low among the qualifiers in the NFC), but was very accurate; he put 17 of those punts inside the 20-yard line. This will be Runager's second Super Bowl appearance (he played for Philadelphia in Super Bowl XV).

The 49ers' punt and kickoff coverage teams are led by reserve running back Bill Ring and linebackers Blanchard Montgomery, Todd Shell, and Mike Walter. The punt coverage unit finished fifth in the NFL, giving up only 6.3 yards per return. The kickoff coverage team ranked eighth in the league and gave up an average of 19.2 yards.

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Touchbacks	Inside 20	Long
Runager	56	2341	41.8	12	17	59
Orosz	5	195	39.0	0	1	55

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
McLemore	45	521	11.6	79	1

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Monroe	27	561	20.8	44	0
Harmon	13	357	27.5	51	0
McLemore	3	80	26.7	50	0
Ring	1	27	27.0	27	0
Wilson	1	14	14.0	14	0
Cooper	1	0	0.0	0	0
McIntyre	1	0	0.0	0	0

FIELD GOALS

	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Wersching	1-1	8-8	8-11	7-13	1-2	25-35

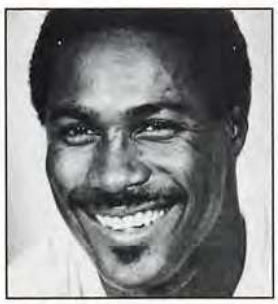
Ray Wersching is deadly accurate on field goal attempts inside the 40.

Dana McLemore's 521 yards (11.6 average) led all NFC punt returners.

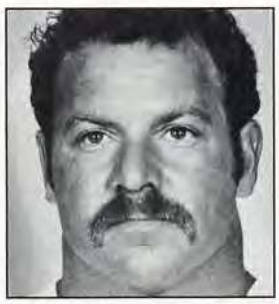
DOLPHINS

How They Were Built

Year	Draft (38)	Trades (4)	Free Agents (6) Waivers (1)
1973 *15-2-0* *Super Bowl VIII Champion*	*QB* Don Strock *(5)* *G* Ed Newman *(6)*		
1974 *11-4-0* *1st, AFC East*	*WR* Nat Moore *(3)*		
1975 *10-4-0* *2nd, AFC East*			*LB* Earnie Rhone *(FA)*
1976 *6-8-0* *3rd, AFC East*	*DE* Kim Bokamper *(1B)*		
1977 *10-4-0* *2nd, AFC East*	*LB* A.J. Duhe *(1)* *NT* Bob Baumhower *(2)*		
1978 *11-6-0* *2nd, AFC East*	*WR* Jimmy Cefalo *(3B)* *DE* Doug Betters *(6)* *TE* Bruce Hardy *(9)*		
1979 *10-7-0* *1st, AFC East*	*T* Jon Giesler *(1)* *G-C* Jeff Toews *(2)* *RB* Tony Nathan *(3A)* *K* Uwe von Schamann *(7)* *S* Glenn Blackwood *(8)* *S* Mike Kozlowski *(10)*		*T* Cleveland Green *(FA)*
1980 *8-8-0* *3rd, AFC East*	*CB* Don McNeal *(1)* *C* Dwight Stephenson *(2)* *NT-DE* Bill Barnett *(3)* *TE* Joe Rose *(7)*		*RB* Woody Bennett *(W)*
1981 *11-5-1* *1st, AFC East*	*CB-KR* Fulton Walker *(6B)* *CB* William Judson (8) *WR* Jim Jensen *(11)*	*LB* Bob Brudzinski *(from L.A. Rams)* *RB* Eddie Hill *(from L.A. Rams)*	*S* Lyle Blackwood *(FA)*
1982 *10-3-0* *AFC Champion*	*G* Roy Foster *(1B)* *WR* Mark Duper *(2)* *CB-S* Paul Lankford *(3)* *LB* Charles Bowser *(4)* *TE* Dan Johnson *(7A)* *G* Steve Clark *(9A)*		*WR* Vince Heflin *(FA)*
1983 *12-5-0* *1st, AFC East*	*QB* Dan Marino *(1)* *DE* Mike Charles *(2)* *DE* Charles Benson *(3)* *P* Reggie Roby *(6)* *WR* Mark Clayton *(8B)* *LB* Mark Brown *(9)*		*CB* Robert Sowell *(FA)*
1984 *16-2-0* *AFC Champion*	*LB* Jackie Shipp *(1)* *LB* Jay Brophy *(2)* *RB* Joe Carter *(4)* *S* Bud Brown *(11)*	*RB* Pete Johnson *(from San Diego)* *T* Ronnie Lee *(from Atlanta)*	*LB* Sanders Shiver *(FA)*



Nat Moore



Ed Newman

Don Strock

Now in his twenty-second season as an NFL head coach, Don Shula is making a record sixth appearance in the Super Bowl today. He also is trying to become the second coach to win three Super Bowls and to move into a tie with Tom Landry as the second-winningest coach in NFL history. Shula currently has a career record of 242-93-6.

The 55-year-old Shula played at John Carroll University in Cleveland and then had a seven-year NFL career with the Cleveland Browns, Baltimore Colts, and Washington Redskins.

Shula entered coaching in 1958 as an assistant at Virginia. The next year he went to Kentucky, and, in 1960, he joined the Detroit Lions.

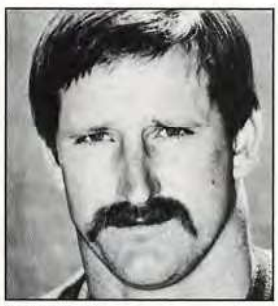
In 1963, Shula became the head coach of the Baltimore Colts. In seven years, he compiled a 71-23-4 record, including 13-1 in 1968, when the Colts had the best record in football and went to Super Bowl III.

He went to Miami in 1970, where he has led the Dolphins to five Super Bowls, including wins in Games VII and VIII. His 1972 team is the only unbeaten, untied team (17-0) in NFL history.

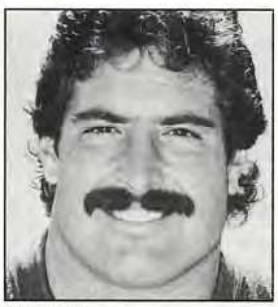
Shula's staff includes Tom Keane, defensive backfield; Bob Matheson, special teams; John Sandusky, offense-offensive line; Mike Scarry, defensive line-run defense; David Shula, receivers; Chuck Studley, defense; Carl Taseff, offensive backfield; and Junior Wade, strength and flexibility.

How They Were Built

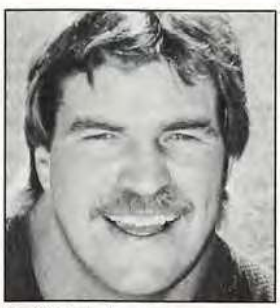
Year	Draft (25)	Trades (9)	Free Agents (14) Waivers (1)
1974 *6-8-0* *2nd, NFC West*	*T* Keith Fahnhorst *(2A)*		
1975 *5-9-0* *2nd, NFC West*			
1976 *8-6-0* *2nd, NFC West*	*G* Randy Cross *(2A)* *G* John Ayers *(8)*		
1977 *5-9-0* *3rd, NFC West*			*K* Ray Wersching *(FA)*
1978 *2-14-0* *4th, NFC West*	*LB* Dan Bunz *(1B)* *C* Fred Quillan *(7)*	*WR* Freddie Solomon *(from Miami)*	
1979 *2-14-0* *4th, NFC West*	*QB* Joe Montana *(3)* *WR* Dwight Clark *(10A)*		*DE* Dwaine Board *(FA)* *S-CB* Dwight Hicks *(FA)*
1980 *6-10-0* *3rd, NFC West*	*TE* Earl Cooper *(1A)* *DE* Jim Stuckey *(1B)* *LB* Keena Turner *(2)*		*DE* Lawrence Pillers *(FA)*
1981 *16-3-0* *Super Bowl XVI Champion*	*CB-S* Ronnie Lott *(1)* *CB* Eric Wright *(2B)* *S* Carlton Williamson *(3)*	*DE* Fred Dean *(from San Diego)*	*T* Allan Kennedy *(FA)* *LB* Milt McColl *(FA)* *LB* Jack Reynolds *(FA)* *RB* Bill Ring *(FA)* *WR* Mike Wilson *(FA)*
1982 *3-6-0* *T11th, NFC Regular Season*	*T* Bubba Paris *(2)* *CB-KR* Dana McLemore *(10A)*	*TE* Russ Francis *(from New England)*	*WR* Renaldo Nehemiah *(FA)* *DE* Jeff Stover *(FA)*
1983 *11-7-0* *1st, NFC West*	*RB* Roger Craig *(2)* *LB* Blanchard Montgomery *(3)* *S* Tom Holmoe *(4)* *LB* Riki Ellison *(5)*	*QB* Matt Cavanaugh *(from New England)* *RB* Wendell Tyler *(from L.A. Rams)*	*RB-KR* Carl Monroe *(FA)*
1984 *17-1-0* *NFC Champion*	*LB* Todd Shell *(1)* *TE* John Frank *(2)* *G* Guy McIntyre *(3)* *NT* Michael Carter *(5A)* *S* Jeff Fuller *(5B)* *RB* Derrick Harmon *(9B)*	*CB* Mario Clark *(from Buffalo)* *DE* Gary Johnson *(from San Diego)* *NT* Louie Kelcher *(from San Diego)* *NT* Manu Tuiasosopo *(from Seattle)*	*P* Max Runager *(FA)* *T* Billy Shields *(FA)* *LB* Mike Walter *(W)*



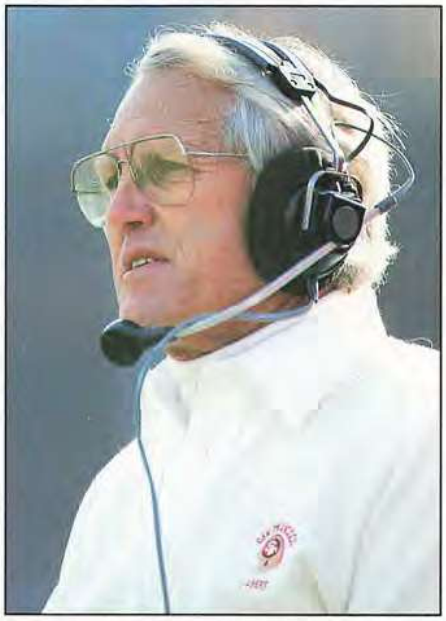
John Ayers



Randy Cross



Keith Fahnhorst



Today Bill Walsh and his 49ers are attempting to become the first team in NFL history to win 18 games in a season. And Walsh also is hoping to join a select group of coaches who have won two Super Bowls.

Walsh, who is generally recognized as one of the top offensive minds in the game, took over as head coach of the 49ers in 1979. In his third year, he led the club to a 26-20 victory against Cincinnati in Super Bowl XVI. His overall record in the NFL is 55-41.

The 53-year-old Walsh was an end at San Jose State. He began his coaching career in 1960 at California under Marv Levy. In 1963, he joined John Ralston's staff at Stanford.

Walsh began his pro coaching career as offensive backfield coach for the Oakland Raiders in 1966. He then spent eight seasons in charge of quarterbacks and receivers in Cincinnati and one as offensive coordinator for the San Diego Chargers.

Walsh served as head coach at Stanford in 1977-78, leading the Cardinal to two bowl games.

Walsh's assistants include Jerry Attaway, conditioning; Paul Hackett, quarterbacks-receivers; Tommy Hart, assistant defensive line; Norb Hecker, linebackers; Sherman Lewis, running backs; Bobb McKittrick, offensive line; Bill McPherson, defensive backfield; George Seifert, defensive coordinator; and Fred vonAppen, special teams-assistant offensive line.

DIAMOND VISION: SUPER BOWL CHAMPS THREE YEARS IN A ROW!

A Championship Performance

Super Bowl IXX marks Diamond Vision's third straight appearance in the Super Bowl. The NFL has been so impressed with the four color, large screen excitement we've brought to the game that they have invited us back year after year. And the fans have cheered Diamond Vision's contributions to the biggest football game of the season: the instant replays, player close-ups and special messages that give every seat a 50 yard line feeling of excitement. Since its introduction in 1980, Mitsubishi Electric's Diamond Vision has become the acknowledged leader in the field of large screen video technology. And we're proud to be a continuing and vital contributor to the super charged atmosphere of the Super Bowl.

A Smash Hit on Broadway

You don't have to buy a ticket to see the fastest rising star in Times Square. Since our first Diamond Vision outdoor video billboard premiered there in April, 1984 it has been hailed as an advertising success story. The use of changing images on the vibrant, four color Diamond Vision screen has attracted advertisers from all over the country. This cost-effective medium puts the most desirable locations in the range of any advertising budget. The Times Square location is just the first in a planned network of Diamond Vision outdoor video boards in major markets across the country including Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston and

Dallas, among others. Find out how to become part of this new wave in outdoor advertising.

A True Photo Finish

At Hollywood Park in Los Angeles, a day at the races has been made even more exciting with Diamond Vision. Since the board's inauguration at the Breeder's Cup race of 1984, racing fans have counted on Diamond Vision as a sure bet to capture the action from every seat whether in the club house or the grandstands. And how about those close-ups of races won "by a nose" as well as jockey profiles, messages and graphics? From the Exacta to the Daily Double, Diamonc Vision is the odds-on favorite to win, place and show at Hollywood Park.

HOLLYWOOD

On The Road Again

Diamond Vision technology never stands still. Not with the Diamond Vision Mobile 2000 Video Control System, the go-anywhere system. The Diamond Vision 2000 boasts some impressive statistics. Its giant screen, 13½ ft. high by 18 ft. wide, has over 27,000 thousand high-intensity red, blue and green electron tubes whose picture is bright and clear, even in direct sunlight. The 2000's mobile studio is fully equipped and can be attached to any existing video system in less than two hours. It has been a proven attention-grabber at state fairs, movie openings, shopping malls, sporting events, rock concerts, sales conventions, rallies, political auctions...anywhere a non-permanent message and video board can be used.

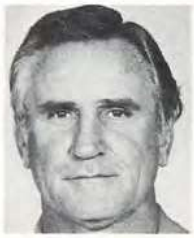
DIAMOND VISION

(800) 847-6565
(800) DIAMOND

DOLPHINS

JOSEPH ROBBIE
President

J. MICHAEL ROBBIE
Exec. VP-Gen. Manager


DON SHULA
VP-Head Coach

4 REGGIE ROBY
Punter

5 U. von SCHAMANN
Kicker

10 DON STROCK
Quarterback

11 JIM JENSEN
Wide Receiver

13 DAN MARINO
Quarterback

22 TONY NATHAN
Running Back

23 JOE CARTER
Running Back

28 DON McNEAL
Cornerback

31 EDDIE HILL
Running Back

34 WOODY BENNETT
Running Back

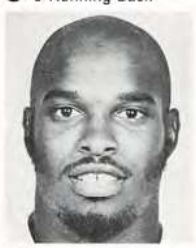
40 MIKE KOZLOWSKI
Safety

41 FULTON WALKER
Cornerback

42 LYLE BLACKWOOD
Safety

43 BUD BROWN
Safety

44 PAUL LANKFORD
Cornerback


45 ROBERT SOWELL
Cornerback

46 PETE JOHNSON
Running Back

47 G. BLACKWOOD
Safety

49 WILLIAM JUDSON
Cornerback

50 JACKIE SHIPP
Linebacker

51 MARK BROWN
Linebacker

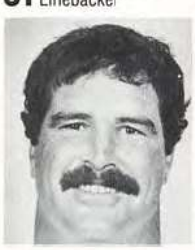
52 SANDERS SHIVER
Linebacker

53 JAY BROPHY
Linebacker

55 EARNIE RHONE
Linebacker

56 C. BOWSER
Linebacker

57 D. STEPHENSON
Center


58 KIM BOKAMPER
Defensive End

59 BOB BRUDZINSKI
Linebacker

60 JEFF TOEWS
Guard-Center

61 ROY FOSTER
Guard

64 ED NEWMAN
Guard

70 BILL BARNETT
NT-Def. End

71 MIKE CHARLES
Defensive End

DOLPHINS

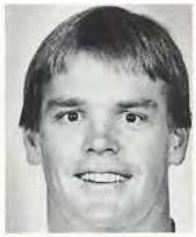
72 RONNIE LEE
Tackle

73 B. BAUMHOWER
Nose Tackle

74 C.GREEN
Tackle

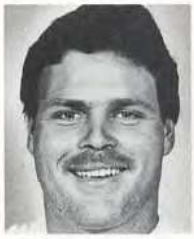
75 DOUG BETTERS
Defensive End

76 STEVE CLARK
Guard



77 A. J. DUHE
Linebacker

78 C. BENSON
Defensive End



79 JON GIESLER
Tackle

80 JOE ROSE
Tight End

81 JIMMY CEFALO
Wide Receiver

83 MARK CLAYTON
Wide Receiver

84 BRUCE HARDY
Tight End

85 MARK DUPER
Wide Receiver

87 DAN JOHNSON
Tight End

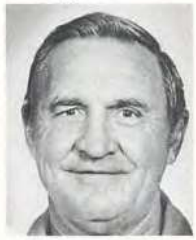
88 VINCE HEFLIN
Wide Receiver

89 NAT MOORE
Wide Receiver

TOM KEANE
Assistant Coach

BOB MATHESON
Assistant Coach

JOHN SANDUSKY
Assistant Coach



MIKE SCARRY
Assistant Coach

DAVID SHULA
Assistant Coach

CHUCK STUDLEY
Assistant Coach

CARL TASEFF
Assistant Coach

JUNIOR WADE
Assistant Coach

CHARLEY WINNER
Dir.-Pro Personnel

CHUCK CONNOR
Dir.-Player Personnel

ELBERT DUBENION
Asst. Dir.-Player Per.

BOB LUNDY
Trainer

BILL DAVIS
Assistant Trainer

DAN DOWE
Equipment Manager

MICHAEL CARTWRIGHT
Scout

MILT DAVIS
Scout

Olds Cutlass Ciera.

Technology that's state of the art. And style that's all Cutlass.

Cutlass Ciera's technology is most impressive. The engine is constantly tuned by a computer. There's front-wheel drive, and options like an electronic instrument panel and 3.8L V6 engine with multi-port fuel injection.

But above all Ciera is a Cutlass. So along with great engineering, this mid-size carries with it a great heritage. And it shows. It shows in the stylish, contemporary design. In the clean lines, and attractive new front end.

Inside, you enjoy a most handsome interior, with ample room for six. The Brougham even offers available rich, supple leather in the seating areas.

Olds Cutlass Ciera. It never forgets it's a Cutlass. And neither will you.

Oldsmobiles are equipped with engines produced at facilities operated by GM car groups, subsidiaries or affiliated companies worldwide.

There is a special feel in an Oldsmobile

Let's get it together... buckle up.

Kick off your next party with wheat thins®

Original Wheat Thins or Low Salt Wheat Thins

They're the wholesome snack cracker with delicious good taste your family will enjoy anytime.

NABISCO BRANDS INC

©1985

Miami Dolphins

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	NFL Exp.	College
70	Barnett, Bill	NT-DE	6-4	260	5/10/56	5	Nebraska
73	Baumhower, Bob	NT	6-5	265	8/4/55	8	Alabama
34	Bennett, Woody	RB	6-2	225	3/24/55	7	Miami
78	Benson, Charles	DE	6-3	267	11/21/60	2	Baylor
75	Betters, Doug	DE	6-7	265	6/11/56	7	Nevada-Reno
47	Blackwood, Glenn	S	6-0	190	2/23/57	6	Texas
42	Blackwood, Lyle	S	6-1	190	5/24/51	12	Texas Christian
58	Bokamper, Kim	DE	6-6	255	9/25/54	8	San Jose State
56	Bowser, Charles	LB	6-3	235	10/2/59	3	Duke
53	Brophy, Jay	LB	6-3	233	7/27/60	R	Miami
43	Brown, Bud	S	6-0	194	4/19/61	R	Southern Mississippi
51	Brown, Mark	LB	6-2	225	7/18/61	2	Purdue
59	Brudzinski, Bob	LB	6-4	223	1/1/55	8	Ohio State
23	Carter, Joe	RB	5-11	198	6/23/62	R	Alabama
81	Cefalo, Jimmy	WR	5-11	188	10/5/56	6	Penn State
71	Charles, Mike	DE	6-4	283	9/23/62	2	Syracuse
76	Clark, Steve	G	6-4	255	8/2/60	3	Utah
83	Clayton, Mark	WR	5-9	175	4/8/61	2	Louisville
77	Duhe, A.J.	LB	6-4	235	11/27/55	8	LSU
85	Duper, Mark	WR	5-9	187	1/25/59	3	Northwestern State, La.
61	Foster, Roy	G	6-4	275	5/24/60	3	USC
79	Giesler, Jon	T	6-5	260	12/23/56	6	Michigan
74	Green, Cleveland	T	6-3	262	9/11/57	6	Southern University
84	Hardy, Bruce	TE	6-5	232	6/1/56	7	Arizona State
88	Heflin, Vince	WR	6-0	185	7/7/59	3	Central State, Ohio
31	Hill, Eddie	RB	6-2	210	5/13/57	6	Memphis State
11	Jensen, Jim	WR	6-4	215	11/14/58	4	Boston University
87	Johnson, Dan	TE	6-3	240	5/17/60	3	Iowa State
46	Johnson, Pete	RB	6-0	250	3/22/54	8	Ohio State
49	Judson, William	CB	6-1	190	3/26/59	3	South Carolina State
40	Kozlowski, Mike	S	6-1	198	2/24/56	5	Colorado
44	Lankford, Paul	CB-S	6-2	184	6/15/58	3	Penn State
72	Lee, Ronnie	T	6-4	265	12/24/56	6	Baylor
13	Marino, Dan	QB	6-4	214	9/15/61	2	Pittsburgh
28	McNeal, Don	CB	5-11	192	5/6/58	4	Alabama
89	Moore, Nat	WR	5-9	188	9/19/51	11	Florida
22	Nathan, Tony	RB	6-0	206	12/14/56	6	Alabama
64	Newman, Ed	G	6-2	255	6/4/51	12	Duke
55	Rhone, Earnie	LB	6-2	224	8/20/53	9	Henderson State
4	Roby, Reggie	P	6-2	243	7/30/61	2	Iowa
80	Rose, Joe	TE	6-3	230	6/24/57	5	California
50	Shipp, Jackie	LB	6-2	236	3/19/62	R	Oklahoma
52	Shiver, Sanders	LB	6-2	235	2/14/55	9	Carson-Newman
45	Sowell, Robert	CB	5-11	175	6/23/61	2	Howard
57	Stephenson, Dwight	C	6-2	255	11/20/57	5	Alabama
10	Strock, Don	QB	6-5	220	11/27/50	11	Virginia Tech
60	Toews, Jeff	G-C	6-3	255	11/4/57	6	Washington
5	von Schamann, Uwe	K	6-1	185	4/23/56	6	Oklahoma
41	Walker, Fulton	CB	5-11	196	4/30/58	4	West Virginia

R—A first-year player who has not previously been in an NFL training camp.

THREE-DEEP LINEUPS

OFFENSE			
WR	**—85 Mark Duper**	89 Nat Moore	88 Vince Heflin
LT	**—79 Jon Giesler**	74 Cleveland Green	
LG	**—61 Roy Foster**	60 Jeff Toews	
C	**—57 Dwight Stephenson**	60 Jeff Toews	
RG	**—64 Ed Newman**	76 Steve Clark	
RT	**—74 Cleveland Green**	72 Ronnie Lee	
TE	**—87 Dan Johnson**	84 Bruce Hardy	80 Joe Rose
WR	**—83 Mark Clayton**	81 Jimmy Cefalo	11 Jim Jensen
QB	**—13 Dan Marino**	10 Don Strock	11 Jim Jensen
RB	**—34 Woody Bennett**	46 Pete Johnson	
RB	**—22 Tony Nathan**	23 Joe Carter	31 Eddie Hill
DEFENSE			
LE	**—75 Doug Betters**	78 Charles Benson	
NT	**—73 Bob Baumhower**	70 Bill Barnett	
RE	**—58 Kim Bokamper**	71 Mike Charles	70 Bill Barnett
LOLB	**—59 Bob Brudzinski**	55 Earnie Rhone	
LILB	**—53 Jay Brophy**	77 A.J. Duhe	50 Jackie Shipp
RILB	**—51 Mark Brown**	55 Earnie Rhone	
ROLB	**—56 Charles Bowser**	52 Sanders Shiver	
LCB	**—28 Don McNeal**	44 Paul Lankford	41 Fulton Walker
RCB	**—49 William Judson**	45 Robert Sowell	
SS	**—47 Glenn Blackwood**	40 Mike Kozlowski	43 Bud Brown
FS	**—42 Lyle Blackwood**	44 Paul Lankford	
SPECIALISTS			
P	**— 4 Reggie Roby**		
K	**— 5 Uwe von Schamann**		
H	**—10 Don Strock**	11 Jim Jensen	
PC	**—60 Jeff Toews**	84 Bruce Hardy	
KC	**—60 Jeff Toews**		
PR	**—41 Fulton Walker**	83 Mark Clayton	88 Vince Heflin
KR	**—41 Fulton Walker**	23 Joe Carter	88 Vince Heflin

Bold Face—Starters

If your next color TV doesn't bring you stereo broadcasts, you're only getting half a TV.

TV sound is going to be broadcast in stereo. Make sure your next TV can receive it. Panasonic adds true stereo sound to our spectacular CompuFocus™ picture with Data-Grade. Anything less won't give you the whole picture.

Today, TV is on the threshold of a whole new era. All the TV networks are going to be broadcasting TV in stereo. So, make sure your next color TV is ready.

Introducing the Panasonic CTF-2077R. Our new Square-Corner 20" color TV (meas diag). It receives full stereo broadcasts. Through its integrated amplifier. Decoder. And built-in stereo speakers. For the first time, TV sound will have depth and motion. From movies to musical performances. As people move across the screen so will their voices. The effect is amazingly realistic.

CompuFocus with Data-Grade.
Ready for the Future.

CompuFocus is an advanced system of video optics and electronics. Data-Grade produces a picture with more dots per square inch than ordinary TV. Together they give you an incredibly sharp picture.

You're ready for all the new technologies that will center around your TV. Data-Grade lets you read the fine print from computers, Teletext and Videotex. And RGB brings pure color to computer graphics.

Panasonic color TV. With stereo. CompuFocus. And Data-Grade. For the whole picture.

Simulated TV picture courtesy of San Francisco Opera.

Panasonic®
just slightly ahead of our time.

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MIAMI DOLPHINS

OFFENSE			DEFENSE		
85	Mark Duper	WR	75	Doug Betters	LE
79	Jon Giesler	LT	73	Bob Baumhower	NT
61	Roy Foster	LG	58	Kim Bokamper	RE
57	Dwight Stephenson	C	59	Bob Brudzinski	LOLB
64	Ed Newman	RG	53	Jay Brophy	LILB
74	Cleveland Green	RT	51	Mark Brown	RILB
87	Dan Johnson	TE	56	Charles Bowser	ROLB
83	Mark Clayton	WR	28	Don McNeal	LCB
13	Dan Marino	QB	49	William Judson	RCB
34	Woody Bennett	RB	47	Glenn Blackwood	SS
22	Tony Nathan	RB	42	Lyle Blackwood	FS

DOLPHINS NUMERICAL ROSTER

4	Reggie Roby	P	43	Bud Brown	S	58	Kim Bokamper	DE	78	Charles Benson	DE
5	Uwe von Schamann	K	44	Paul Lankford	CB	59	Bob Brudzinski	LB	79	Jon Giesler	T
10	Don Strock	QB	45	Robert Sowell	CB	60	Jeff Toews	G-C	80	Joe Rose	TE
11	Jim Jensen	WR	46	Pete Johnson	RB	61	Roy Foster	G-T	81	Jimmy Cefalo	WR
13	Dan Marino	QB	47	Glenn Blackwood	S	64	Ed Newman	G	83	Mark Clayton	WR
22	Tony Nathan	RB	49	William Judson	CB	70	Bill Barnett	NT-DE	84	Bruce Hardy	TE
23	Joe Carter	RB	50	Jackie Shipp	LB	71	Mike Charles	DE	85	Mark Duper	WR
28	Don McNeal	CB	51	Mark Brown	LB	72	Ronnie Lee	T	87	Dan Johnson	TE
31	Eddie Hill	RB	52	Sanders Shiver	LB	73	Bob Baumhower	NT	88	Vince Heflin	WR
34	Woody Bennett	RB	53	Jay Brophy	LB	74	Cleveland Green	T	89	Nat Moore	WR
40	Mike Kozlowski	S	55	Earnie Rhone	LB	75	Doug Betters	DE			
41	Fulton Walker	CB-KR	56	Charles Bowser	LB	76	Steve Clark	G			
42	Lyle Blackwood	S	57	Dwight Stephenson	C	77	A.J. Duhe	LB			

#1scores again.
Coke is it!®

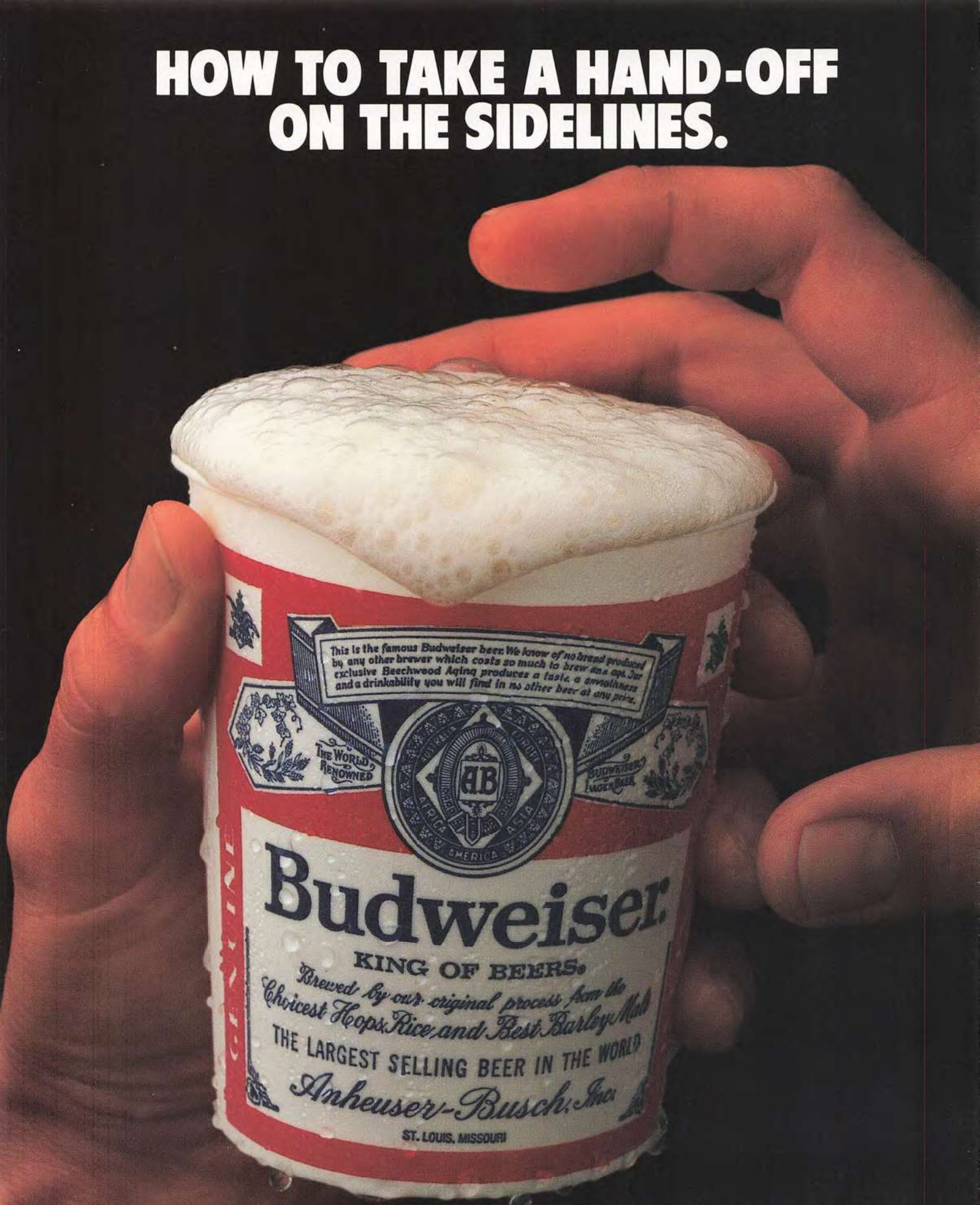
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

	OFFENSE			DEFENSE	
87	Dwight Clark	WR	65	Lawrence Pillers	LE
77	Bubba Paris	LT	78	Manu Tuiasosopo	NT
68	John Ayers	LG	76	Dwaine Board	RE
56	Fred Quillan	C	57	Dan Bunz	LOLB
51	Randy Cross	RG	50	Riki Ellison	LILB
71	Keith Fahnhorst	RT	64	Jack Reynolds	RILB
81	Russ Francis	TE	58	Keena Turner	ROLB
88	Freddie Solomon	WR	42	Ronnie Lott	LCB
16	Joe Montana	QB	21	Eric Wright	RCB
33	Roger Craig	RB	27	Carlton Williamson	SS
26	Wendell Tyler	RB	22	Dwight Hicks	FS

49ERS NUMERICAL ROSTER

4	Max Runager – P	33	Roger Craig – RB	65	Lawrence Pillers – DE	85	Mike Wilson – WR
6	Matt Cavanaugh – QB	42	Ronnie Lott – CB-S	66	Allan Kennedy – T	86	John Frank – TE
14	Ray Wersching – K	43	Dana McLemore – CB-KR	67	Billy Shields – T	87	Dwight Clark – WR
16	Joe Montana – QB	49	Jeff Fuller – S	68	John Ayers – G	88	Freddie Solomon – WR
21	Eric Wright – CB	50	Riki Ellison – LB	71	Keith Fahnhorst – T	89	Earl Cooper – TE
22	Dwight Hicks – S-CB	51	Randy Cross – G	72	Jeff Stover – DE	90	Todd Shell – LB
24	Derrick Harmon – RB	52	Blanchard Montgomery – LB	74	Fred Dean – DE	94	Louie Kelcher – NT
26	Wendell Tyler – RB	53	Milt McColl – LB	76	Dwaine Board – DE	95	Michael Carter – NT
27	Carlton Williamson – S	56	Fred Quillan – C	77	Bubba Paris – T	97	Gary Johnson – DE
28	Tom Holmoe – S	57	Dan Bunz – LB	78	Manu Tuiasosopo – NT	99	Mike Walter – LB
29	Mario Clark – CB	58	Keena Turner – LB	79	Jim Stuckey – DE		
30	Bill Ring – RB	62	Guy McIntyre – G	81	Russ Francis – TE		
32	Carl Monroe – HB-KR	64	Jack Reynolds – LB	83	Renaldo Nehemiah – WR		

HOW TO TAKE A HAND-OFF ON THE SIDELINES.


This is the famous Budweiser beer. We know of no brand produced by any other brewer which costs so much to brew in a cap. Our exclusive Beechwood Aging produces a taste, a smoothness and a drinkability you will find in no other beer at any price.
THE WORLD RENOWNED
AB
EUROPE
AFRICA
ASIA
AMERICA
BUDWEISER LAGER BEER
GENUINE
Budweiser
KING OF BEERS
Brewed by our original process from the Choicest Hops, Rice and Best Barley Malt
THE LARGEST SELLING BEER IN THE WORLD
Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

FOOTBALL FANS...THIS BUD'S FOR YOU.™

BUDWEISER® • KING OF BEERS® • ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC. • ST. LOUIS

San Francisco 49ers

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	NFL Exp.	College
68	Ayers, John	G	6-5	265	4/14/53	8	West Texas State
76	Board, Dwaine	DE	6-5	248	11/29/56	5	North Carolina A&T
57	Bunz, Dan	LB	6-4	225	10/7/55	6	Long Beach State
95	Carter, Michael	NT	6-2	281	10/29/60	R	SMU
6	Cavanaugh, Matt	QB	6-2	212	10/27/56	7	Pittsburgh
87	Clark, Dwight	WR	6-4	215	1/8/57	6	Clemson
29	Clark, Mario	CB	6-2	195	3/29/54	9	Oregon
89	Cooper, Earl	TE	6-2	227	9/17/57	5	Rice
33	Craig, Roger	RB	6-0	222	7/10/60	2	Nebraska
51	Cross, Randy	G	6-3	265	4/25/54	9	UCLA
74	Dean, Fred	DE	6-2	232	2/24/52	10	Louisiana Tech
50	Ellison, Riki	LB	6-2	220	8/15/60	2	USC
71	Fahnhorst, Keith	T	6-6	273	2/6/52	11	Minnesota
81	Francis, Russ	TE	6-6	242	4/3/53	9	Oregon
86	Frank, John	TE	6-3	225	4/17/62	R	Ohio State
49	Fuller, Jeff	S	6-2	216	8/8/62	R	Texas A&M
24	Harmon, Derrick	RB	5-10	202	4/26/63	R	Cornell
22	Hicks, Dwight	S-CB	6-1	192	4/5/56	6	Michigan
28	Holmoe, Tom	S	6-2	180	3/7/60	2	BYU
97	Johnson, Gary	DE	6-2	261	8/31/53	10	Grambling
94	Kelcher, Louie	NT	6-5	310	8/23/53	10	SMU
66	Kennedy, Allan	T	6-7	275	1/8/58	3	Washington State
42	Lott, Ronnie	CB-S	6-0	199	5/8/59	4	USC
53	McColl, Milt	LB	6-6	230	8/28/59	4	Stanford
62	McIntyre, Guy	G	6-3	271	2/17/61	R	Georgia
43	McLemore, Dana	CB-KR	5-10	183	7/1/60	3	Hawaii
32	Monroe, Carl	RB-KR	5-8	166	2/20/60	2	Utah
16	Montana, Joe	QB	6-2	195	6/11/56	6	Notre Dame
52	Montgomery, Blanchard	LB	6-2	236	2/17/61	2	UCLA
83	Nehemiah, Renaldo	WR	6-1	183	3/24/59	3	Maryland
77	Paris, Bubba	T	6-6	295	10/6/60	2	Michigan
65	Pillers, Lawrence	DE	6-4	250	11/4/52	9	Alcorn State
56	Quillan, Fred	C	6-5	266	1/27/56	7	Oregon
64	Reynolds, Jack	LB	6-1	232	11/22/47	15	Tennessee
30	Ring, Bill	RB	5-10	205	12/13/56	4	BYU
4	Runager, Max	P	6-1	189	3/24/56	6	South Carolina
90	Shell, Todd	LB	6-4	225	6/24/62	R	BYU
67	Shields, Billy	T	6-8	279	8/23/53	10	Georgia Tech
88	Solomon, Freddie	WR	5-11	188	1/11/53	10	Tampa
72	Stover, Jeff	DE	6-5	275	5/22/58	3	Oregon
79	Stuckey, Jim	DE	6-4	253	6/21/58	5	Clemson
78	Tuiasosopo, Manu	NT	6-3	252	8/30/57	6	UCLA
58	Turner, Keena	LB	6-2	219	10/22/58	5	Purdue
26	Tyler, Wendell	RB	5-10	200	5/20/55	7	UCLA
99	Walter, Mike	LB	6-3	238	11/30/60	2	Oregon
14	Wersching, Ray	K	5-11	210	8/21/50	12	California
27	Williamson, Carlton	S	6-0	204	6/12/58	4	Pittsburgh
85	Wilson, Mike	WR	6-3	210	12/19/58	4	Washington State
21	Wright, Eric	CB	6-1	180	4/18/59	4	Missouri

R—A first-year player who has not previously been in an NFL training camp.

THREE-DEEP LINEUPS

OFFENSE			
WR	**—87 Dwight Clark**	83 Renaldo Nehemiah	
LT	**—77 Bubba Paris**	67 Billy Shields	
LG	**—68 John Ayers**	62 Guy McIntyre	
C	**—56 Fred Quillan**	51 Randy Cross	
RG	**—51 Randy Cross**	62 Guy McIntyre	
RT	**—71 Keith Fahnhorst**	66 Allan Kennedy	
TE	**—81 Russ Francis**	89 Earl Cooper	86 John Frank
WR	**—88 Freddie Solomon**	85 Mike Wilson	
QB	**—16 Joe Montana**	6 Matt Cavanaugh	
RB	**—33 Roger Craig**	30 Bill Ring	
RB	**—26 Wendell Tyler**	24 Derrick Harmon	32 Carl Monroe
DEFENSE			
LE	**—65 Lawrence Pillers**	79 Jim Stuckey	72 Jeff Stover
NT	**—78 Manu Tuiasosopo**	94 Louie Kelcher	95 Michael Carter
RE	**—76 Dwaine Board**	97 Gary Johnson	74 Fred Dean
LOLB	**—57 Dan Bunz**	53 Milt McColl	52 Blanchard Montgomery
LILB	**—50 Riki Ellison**	99 Mike Walter	
RILB	**—64 Jack Reynolds**	99 Mike Walter	52 Blanchard Montgomery
ROLB	**—58 Keena Turner**	90 Todd Shell	
LCB	**—42 Ronnie Lott**	29 Mario Clark	
RCB	**—21 Eric Wright**	43 Dana McLemore	
SS	**—27 Carlton Williamson**	49 Jeff Fuller	
FS	**—22 Dwight Hicks**	28 Tom Holmoe	
SPECIALISTS			
P	**— 4 Max Runager**		
K	**—14 Ray Wersching**		
H	**—16 Joe Montana**	6 Matt Cavanaugh	88 Freddie Solomon
PC	**—51 Randy Cross**	56 Fred Quillan	68 John Ayers
KC	**—51 Randy Cross**	56 Fred Quillan	68 John Ayers
PR	**—43 Dana McLemore**	24 Derrick Harmon	88 Freddie Solomon
KR	**—32 Carl Monroe**	24 Derrick Harmon	30 Bill Ring

Bold Face—Starters

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49ERS

E. J. DeBARTOLO, JR.
Owner

JOHN McVAY
General Manager

BILL WALSH
President-Head Coach

4 MAX RUNAGER
Punter

6 MATT CAVANAUGH
Quarterback

14 RAY WERSCHING
Kicker

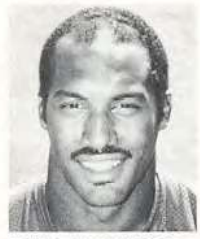
16 JOE MONTANA
Quarterback

21 ERIC WRIGHT
Cornerback

22 DWIGHT HICKS
Safety-Cornerback

24 D. HARMON
Running Back

26 WENDELL TYLER
Running Back


27 C. WILLIAMSON
Safety

28 TOM HOLMOE
Safety

29 MARIO CLARK
Cornerback

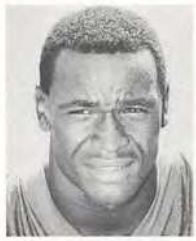
30 BILL RING
Running Back

32 CARL MONROE
Running Back

33 ROGER CRAIG
Running Back

42 RONNIE LOTT
Cornerback-Safety

43 DANA McLEMORE
Cornerback


49 JEFF FULLER
Safety

50 RIKI ELLISON
Linebacker

51 RANDY CROSS
Guard

52 B. MONTGOMERY
Linebacker

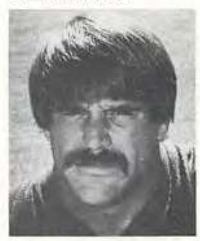
53 MILT McCOLL
Linebacker

56 FRED QUILLAN
Center

57 DAN BUNZ
Linebacker

58 KEENA TURNER
Linebacker

62 GUY McINTYRE
Guard

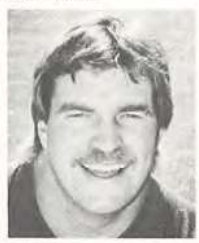

64 JACK REYNOLDS
Linebacker

65 L. PILLERS
Defensive End

66 ALLAN KENNEDY
Tackle

67 BILLY SHIELDS
Tackle

68 JOHN AYERS
Guard


71 KEITH FAHNHORST
Tackle

72 JEFF STOVER
Defensive End

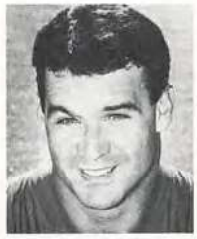
74 FRED DEAN
Defensive End

76 DWAINE BOARD
Defensive End

77 BUBBA PARIS
Tackle

78 M. TUIASOSOPO
Nose Tackle

79 JIM STUCKEY
Defensive End



81 RUSS FRANCIS
Tight End

83 R. NEHEMIAH
Wide Receiver

85 MIKE WILSON
Wide Receiver

86 JOHN FRANK
Tight End

87 DWIGHT CLARK
Wide Receiver

88 F. SOLOMON
Wide Receiver

89 EARL COOPER
Tight End

90 TODD SHELL
Linebacker

94 LOUIE KELCHER
Nose Tackle

95 MICHAEL CARTER
Nose Tackle

97 GARY JOHNSON
Defensive End

99 MIKE WALTER
Linebacker

JERRY ATTAWAY
Assistant Coach

PAUL HACKETT
Assistant Coach

TOMMY HART
Assistant Coach

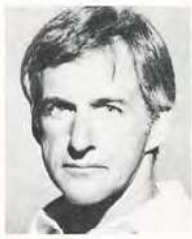
NORB HECKER
Assistant Coach

SHERMAN LEWIS
Assistant Coach

BOBB McKITTRICK
Assistant Coach

BILL McPHERSON
Assistant Coach

RAY RHODES
Assistant Coach



GEORGE SEIFERT
Assistant Coach

FRED vonAPPEN
Assistant Coach

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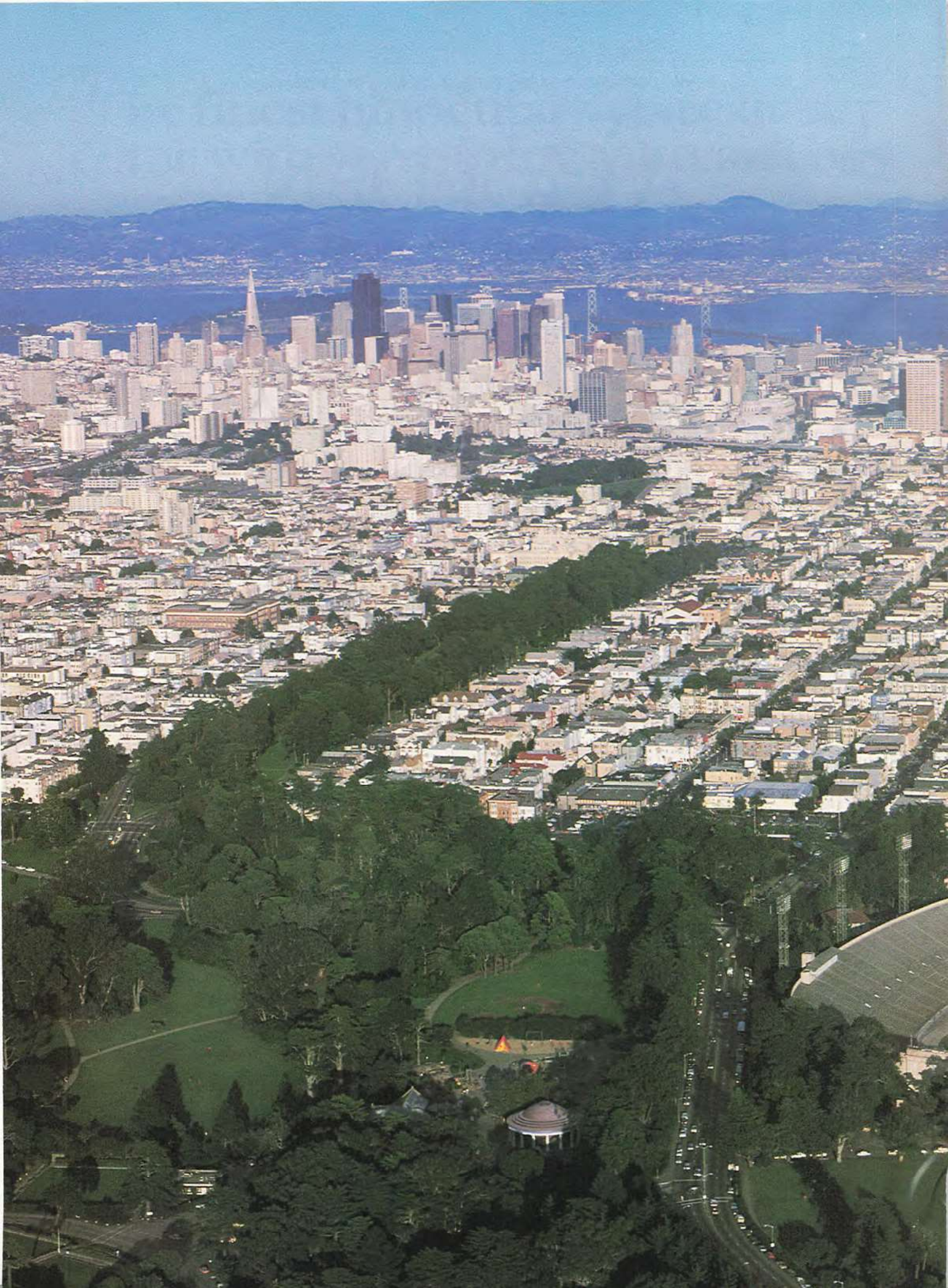

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ROAD CAR COMPANY.
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The finest binoculars you can buy come with something you can't buy.

At Tasco, we realize accidents do happen. That's why if you accidentally damage your finely-crafted pair of World Class Binoculars, Tasco will repair or replace them *free of charge.* Every time. Even if it's your own fault.

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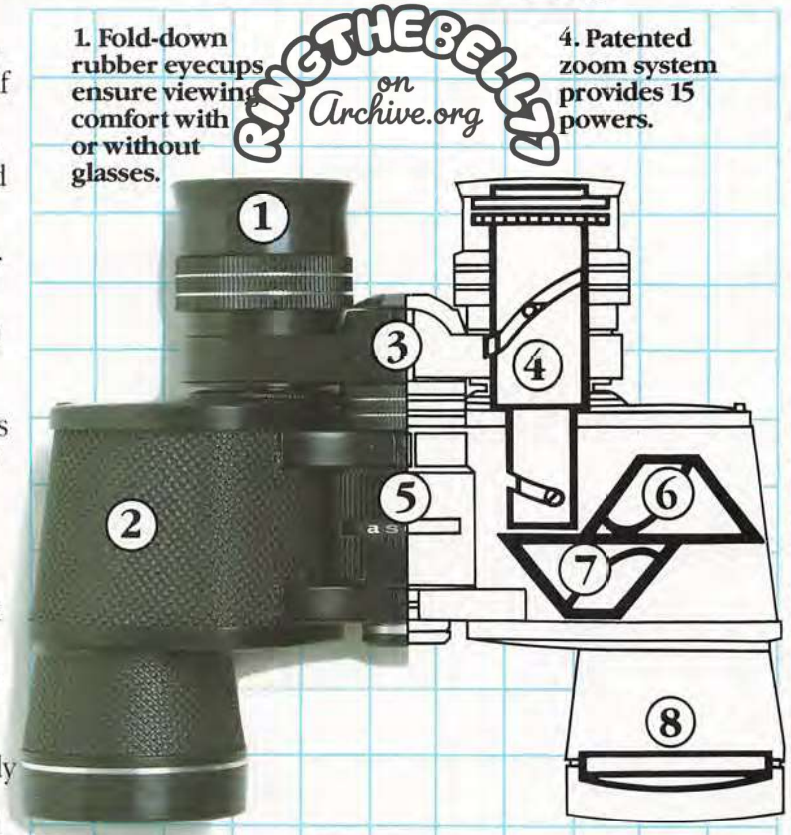

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3. Center focus wheel snaps image into sharp, dramatic focus.

4. Patented zoom system provides 15 powers.

5. Patented center zoom makes zoom operation simultaneous with focusing.

6, 7. Best quality BAK-4 prisms provide brightest possible images.

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY BARON WOLMAN, TEXT BY STEVE CASSADY

A GOLDEN STATE OF MIND

To appreciate football—and life—in the Bay Area, listen to its heroic voices

One hundred and fifty years ago, give or take a decade, the docile village of Yerba Buena erupted almost overnight into the bawdy metropolis of San Francisco. It went from an outpost of 400 to a bustling hive of 35,000.

The initial lure was gold, a lure whose strength is attested to, among other ways, by the remains of Nantucket whalers still lying at the bottom of San Francisco Bay—ships that sank and rotted after entire crews abandoned them for the gold fields in the Sierra foothills.

Later, when the mother lode had been played out, and along with it the treasure-seeking hysteria, the area's own rich nature began beckoning even more convincingly than the veins of yellow ore.

It beckoned immigrants over from Europe, west from northern cities, southern farms, from midwestern plains, and all points between. Beckoned them to the perimeters of the 52 longitudinal miles from the brick-red salt flats of the San Pablo marshlands to the prune and apricot orchards of the Santa Clara Valley: to what we now call the Bay Area.

The lure since then has not been in things ephemeral as gold, but in accumulations of people and history, of scenery and climate, of architecture and legend—lodes that are not likely to tail out, and that speak of endless variety.

Start with the big orange bridge that spans the Golden Gate channel, that unquiet mile and a quarter of water raging through the narrows between San Francisco proper and Marin County. It was erected against shrill lobbies of naysayers, both organized and individual. But for nearly 50 years, the bridge that couldn't be built has pushed its tall spires through the torporous mists of the commonplace.

Move east a mile or so to the decaying penitentiary on the 12-acre island of Alcatraz, where the Federal Bureau of Prisons once reposed the worst, most incorrigible criminals in the system.

Turn north 50 miles into a region of coastal valleys where peasant farmers from Europe sought out the shallow soils on subtle hillsides, sought out the region's alternating six wet months and six dry, its blistering summer heat, tempered always at night by Pacific fog blown in from the west.

They bought and rented scrub-covered acres abandoned as useless by crop farmers, imported vine cuttings from France and Germany and Italy, and turned the region into what is now the renowned California wine country, the Napa and Sonoma Valleys.

Then over to the coast of the blue Pacific and down, along craggy steep bluffs hit by furious surf that gives way now and then to tranquil inlets and smooth beaches—all of them sitting at the base of a coastal range of mountains dense with redwoods and madrona, and kept permanently green from wet and windy sea air.

And across the green ridges, to the vast urban sprawl between the coastal range on one side and the East Bay hills on the other, to the towns and cities of varied industry and demography.

From the eclectic skyline of San Francisco to San Jose, the state's oldest civil settlement. . .a city of paradox, with its rural-feel fruit-packing industry on one side and high-tech Silicon Valley on the other. From the Naval Air Station in Alameda and the waterfront in Oakland—active since the days of Jack London—across the Bay again, to the streets of richly suburban Palo Alto lined with magnolia trees. These streets lead to Stanford University, named by Leland Stanford, one-quarter of the Big Four group of early San Francisco's railroad potentates and Nob Hill millionaires, for a departed son. Stanford University, with its one-story adobe buildings set below the landmark Hoover Tower and among groves of oaks and rows of eucalyptus, is the Harvard of the West. This campus is the focus of the nation today, as Super Bowl XIX becomes part of Bay Area lore.

THE CITY

O.J. SIMPSON:

"The 49ers ruled The City. On Sundays, Kezar Stadium was where it was happening. You know, one of the big disappointments of my pro career was that I never got to play there. When I was a kid, I used to sit in the general admission section, right by where the players used to come out. We'd get all over the opponents when they came out. That was part of the whole thing. But I never got to come through that tunnel as a professional. In fact, even though they played city league high school games there, we [Galileo] only got picked once to play at Kezar. The rest of the time, we had to play on our own little field.

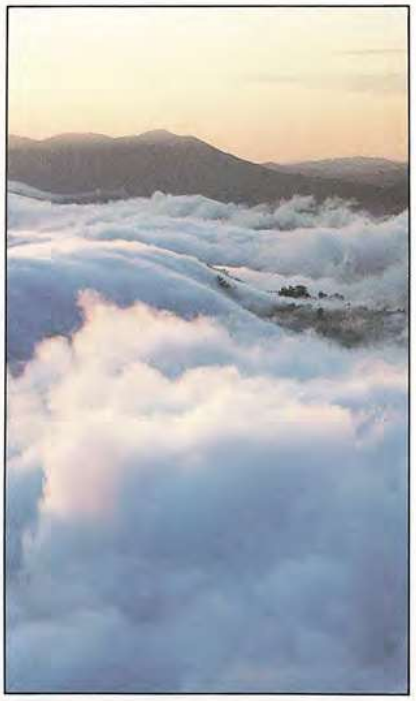
"Kezar. What a place! Being right next to Golden Gate Park had a lot to do with the feeling of seeing a game there. The strange seating arrangement, too, made it unique. And, of course, you had to be ready to dodge the seagulls as soon as the third quarter came around."

Preceding page: *Spanning the clouds as well as the channel waters, the Golden Gate Bridge rivals the San Francisco skyline.* Left: *The city of San Francisco, bracketed by Kezar Stadium in the foreground and the hills of the East Bay beyond.* Below: *Alcatraz, "The Rock."*

WINE COUNTRY

DICK VERMEIL:

"Growing up in the Napa Valley wasn't much different than growing up in a small farming community anywhere. There were eighteen hundred people in town, and you couldn't help but know most of them. My dad was in the garage business; I had worked on many of the people's cars. There were only twenty-nine kids in my high school graduating class, and fifteen or sixteen of us had started the first grade together. We all had to compete in all the sports or we wouldn't have been able to field teams. The level of play wasn't so high that you couldn't compete. You didn't have to be a superior athlete to experience the success that is so important to building confidence. I remember it as a warm, friendly environment. You could get on a bicycle and ride one mile in any direction and be in the vineyards, or go two miles and be in the mountains."



Left: *Spring Mountain Winery, the location for television's "Falcon Crest" series, is nestled amid scenery as perfect as its wine-growing climate.* Right: *Fog shrouds the slopes of Marin County's Mt. Tamalpais.* Below: *An oasis of shade surrounded by ripening grapes.*

SOUTHERN PENINSULA

JOE KAPP:

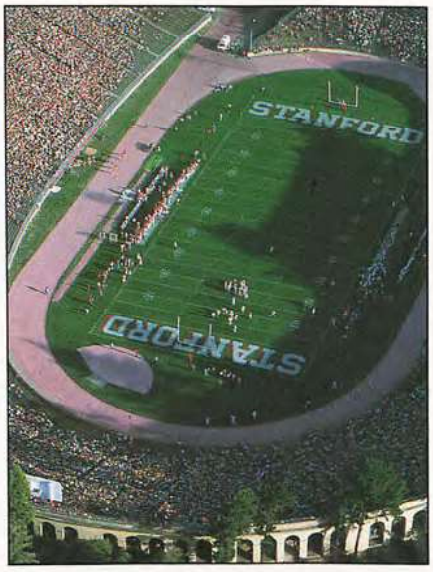
"As a young boy growing up in this area, I always was aware of the great football names and traditions. I recall a Thanksgiving game [in the late 1940s] between City College of San Francisco, with Ollie Matson and Burl Toler as its big people, and Hartnell College in Salinas. I remember spending Saturdays listening to Cal, Stanford, and San Jose State, then getting the privilege of going to Cal and the chance to play in one of the great rivalries in American sports, Cal versus Stanford.

"There's a great history here—St. Mary's with [halfback] Herman Wedemeyer, Santa Clara with coach Buck Shaw [later the 49ers' head coach], the 49ers with Y.A. Tittle, Billy Wilson, and R.C. Owens . . . . It's rich, and I've had the good fortune to be a part of it."

STEVE BARTKOWSKI:

"You couldn't find a prettier place in the world to live. You've got the mountains, the ocean, the Bay, the wine country, and a progressive, attractive city. Not far away is some truly spectacular shoreline, and there are some nearby scenic hideaways such as Monterey, Carmel, even Lake Tahoe. I went to high school in Santa Clara, and I had offers from more than 100 colleges throughout the country. But I decided to stay in the Bay Area and go to Cal. That growing-up period in high school and college should be one of the better times of your life. It was for me. Personally, I can't imagine growing up anywhere else."

Left: *A tideline of fog washes over the Pacific shore west of Palo Alto.* Below, left: *Stanford Stadium, site of Super Bowl XIX.* Below, right: *The Santa Clara Valley, nicknamed the Silicon Valley for its high-tech manufacturing facilities, is the capital of America's computer industry.*

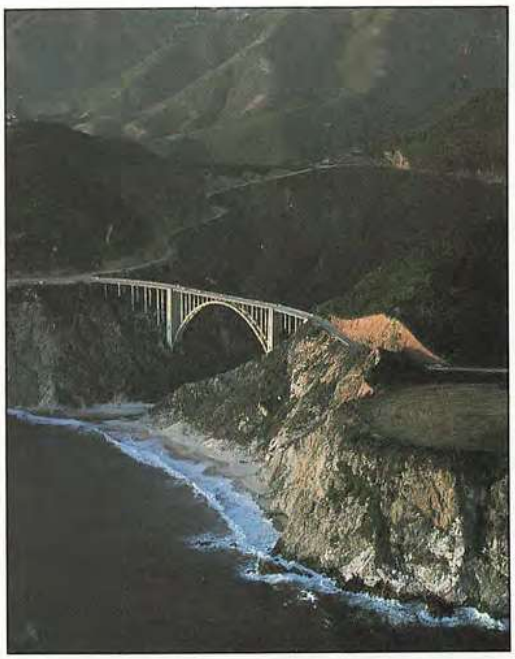


MONTEREY, BIG SUR

FRANKIE ALBERT:

"My family left Palo Alto to live in Monterey. It's a beautiful place. In between the rains and the summer coastal fog, the weather is ideal. The golf courses there are not only spectacular, they are numerous. I used to see all the top pro golfers, and I got a chance to play with them at the Crosby Tournament at Pebble Beach. When I got to Monterey I was a golfer with a twelve handicap. But, after consistent play and taking lessons, I went up to a fourteen. Maybe that's why I play tennis now."

Continued on page 76



Right: *Bixby Creek Bridge on Highway 1 is a Big Sur landmark.* Below: *The eighteenth hole at spectacular Pebble Beach Golf Links attracts pros, amateurs, hackers, and capacity galleries during the Bing Crosby Pro-Am Golf Tournament.* Opposite: *Seventeen Mile Drive, a tourist must, meanders between Carmel and Monterey.*

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OAKLAND, EAST BAY

Continued from page 73

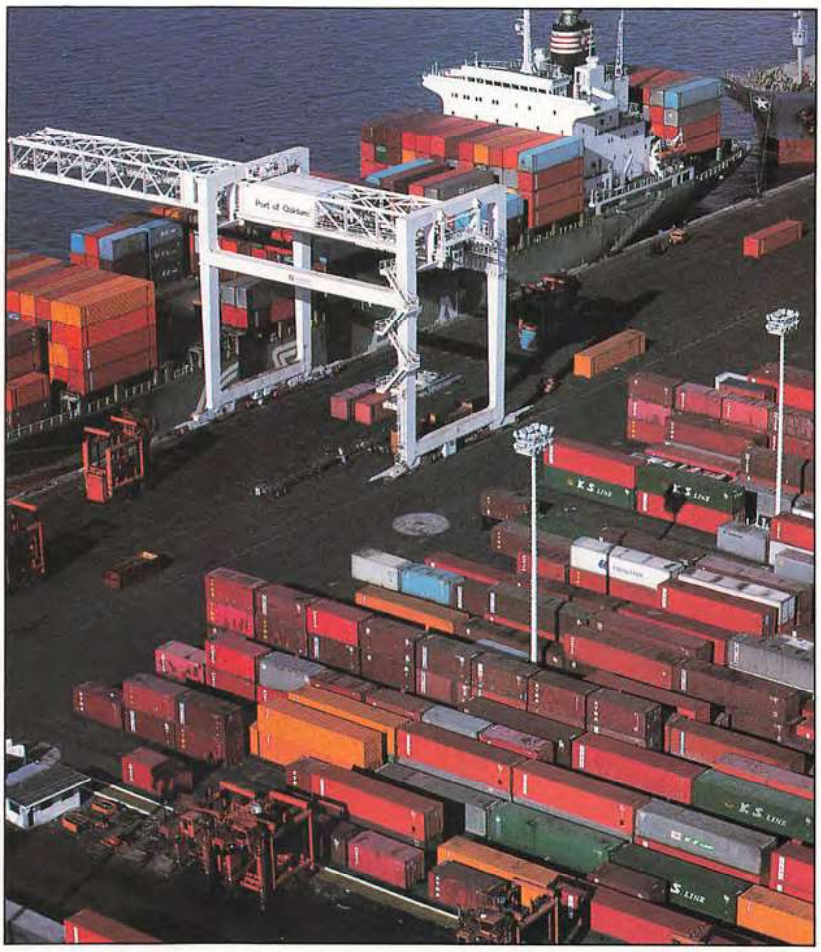
JOHN MADDEN:

''One of the knocks against the Bay Area is that it doesn't have seasons. That may be true when you talk weather, but it's sure got sports seasons. I know. All the time I was growing up in Daly City, my life was wrapped up in sports and seasons.

''My friend John Robinson and I were either playing sports at school or on the playground—football, basketball, baseball. In California, you can play outdoors almost every day of the year. Or we were watching the pros. In the spring, we'd hitch a ride on the back of the trolley and go downtown to watch the Seals play baseball at Seals Stadium. In the summer, either more baseball, or we'd go farther downtown to see boxers such as Bobo Olsen train at Newman's Gym. Or we'd hitchhike across the Bay to Moraga to watch the 49ers train. In the fall and winter, we'd make our way to Kezar to sneak in and watch the 49ers play.

''That's the way it is when sports is your life in the Bay Area—you know what season it is by what you happen to be watching or playing at the time.'' ■

Left: *Straddling the ridgeline east of Livermore at Altamont Pass, wind farms generate electricity and divide the Bay Area from the great San Joaquin Valley.*
Below: *Alive in the primary colors of commerce, the Port of Oakland bustles.*



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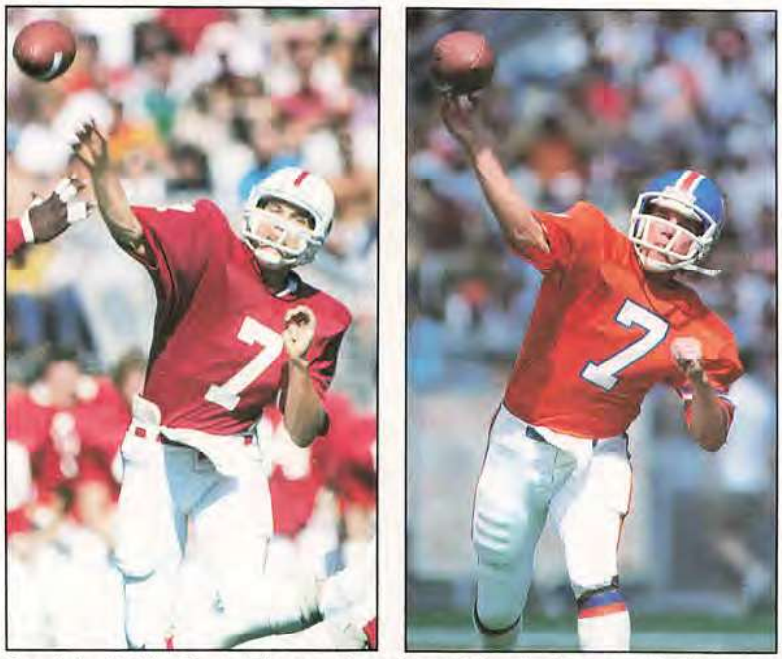
THE STANFORD LEGACY

Goalpost graduates from Stanford preserve a rich NFL tradition

You may have heard a lot about the quantity and quality of quarterbacks BYU recently has sent into the NFL. But if you really want to talk about the passing game, Super Bowl XIX is in the right place to hold the conversation. Through the years, Stanford has contributed to college and pro football not only more passers and receivers, but more offensive refinements and developments than any other school in the country.



Quarterback John Elway: The team has changed, but the form remains the same.

As far back as the last century, Stanford was a hotbed of football innovation. Two of the school's first coaches were Walter Camp, the "Father of Football," and Fielding (Hurry Up) Yost, who later earned fame for his point-a-minute offenses at Michigan.

Actually, Stanford's first great player wasn't a passer or an end. Fullback Ernie Nevers was an All-America under coach Glenn S. "Pop" Warner in the early 1920s before graduating to an NFL career that culminated in his selection to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The Stanford passing tradition truly began in 1940 with the arrival of Clark Shaughnessy. The former head coach at the University of Chicago brought to Stanford the unorthodox T-formation—and a load of skeptics.

"If Stanford ever wins a single game with that crazy formation, you can throw all the football I ever knew into the Pacific Ocean," Warner said scornfully at the time.

But Shaughnessy found the perfect man to run his T—little magician Frankie Albert—and Stanford's "Wow Boys" (including quarterback Albert, halfbacks Hugh Gallarneau and Pete Kmetovic, and fullback Norm Standlee) swept to 10 consecutive victories, won the 1941 Rose Bowl, and later continued their football careers in the NFL. Shaughnessy even had time to return to Chicago to plot the offense the Bears used to demolish Washington 73-0 in the 1940 NFL Championship Game.

Shaughnessy stayed at Stanford only two years. A decade later, however, one of his former players—Chuck Taylor—became head coach, and propelled the passing game into the modern era.

"I learned fast that Stanford wasn't going to run over anybody," Taylor says. "But passing could keep us in almost every game and could allow us to upset a team that was physically stronger than we were. So we made the decision to go to a style of passing that was unique at the time. We wouldn't run to establish the pass, but the other way around. It was the real start of that strategy."

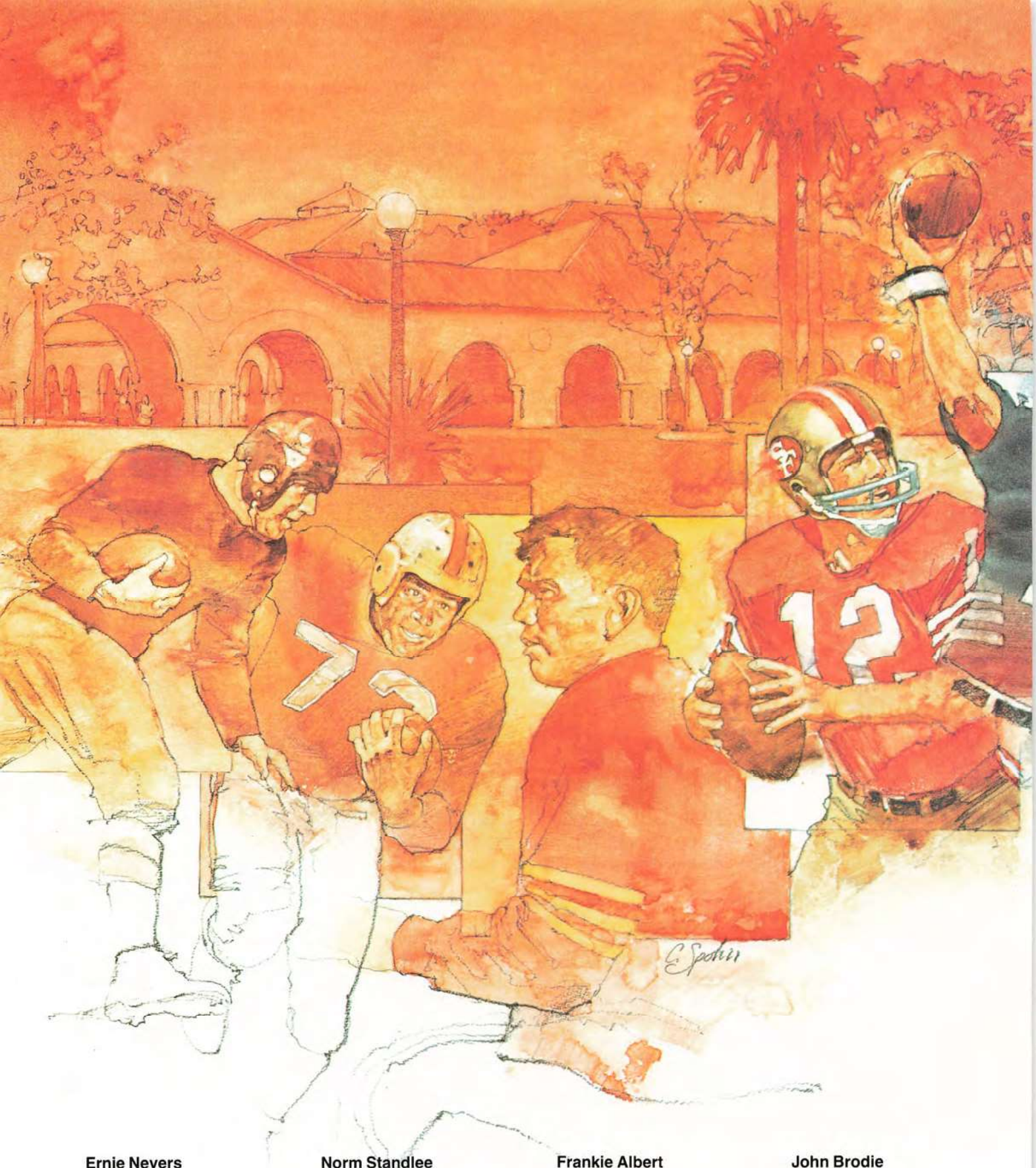
Taylor also polished and sophisticated the passing game. He customized zone patterns for his receivers, and gave the quarterback responsibility for reading the defense and calling audibles.

Taylor turned out set after set of successful quarterbacks and receivers, many who starred in the NFL. In 1951, Taylor's first season, quarterback Gary Kerkorian and All-America end Bill McColl led Stanford to the Rose Bowl. Both played in the NFL, though Kerkorian's apparently bright future with the Baltimore Colts was diminished when an unknown named Johnny Unitas took his first step toward immortality. In 1953, Bobby Garrett became the first of six Stanford quarterbacks to lead the nation in passing, and his primary end, Sam Morley, was named All-America. Garrett became a first-round selection of the Cleveland Browns.

Taylor's protéges got even better as time went by.

"Chuck Taylor was the reason I was able to play college football and, as a result, pro football," says Taylor's last great quarterback, John Brodie. "I never was enthusiastic about the game of football because the spartan attitude

THE STANFORD LEGACY continued on page 91

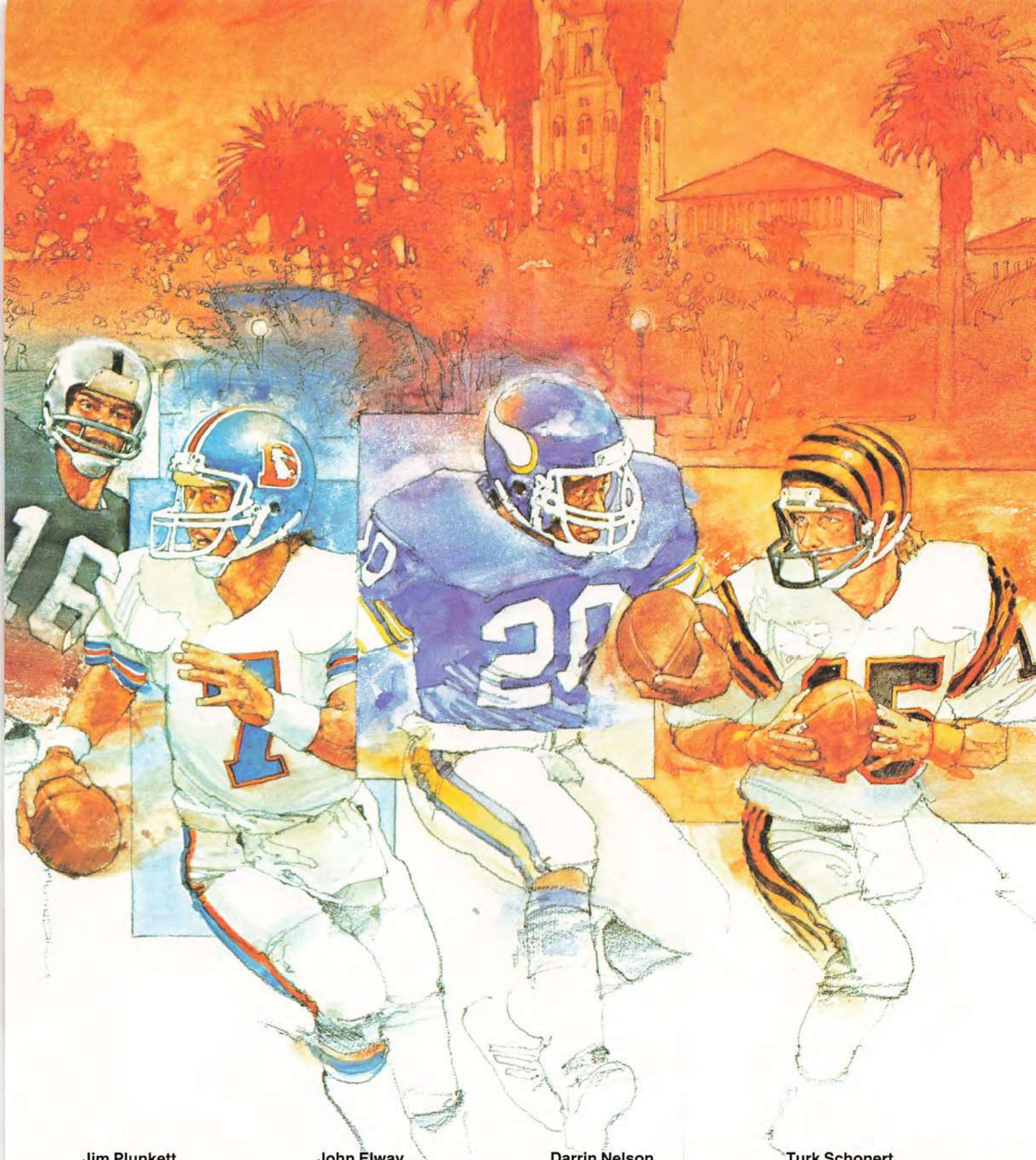


Ernie Nevers
Fullback
Stanford: 1922-25
NFL: Duluth Eskimos, 1926-27
Chicago Cardinals, 1929-1931

Norm Standlee
Fullback
Stanford: 1938-1940
NFL: Chicago Bears, 1941
San Francisco 49ers, 1946-1952

Frankie Albert
Quarterback
Stanford: 1939-1941
NFL: San Francisco 49ers, 1946-1952

John Brodie
Quarterback
Stanford: 1954-56
NFL: San Francisco 49ers, 1957-1973

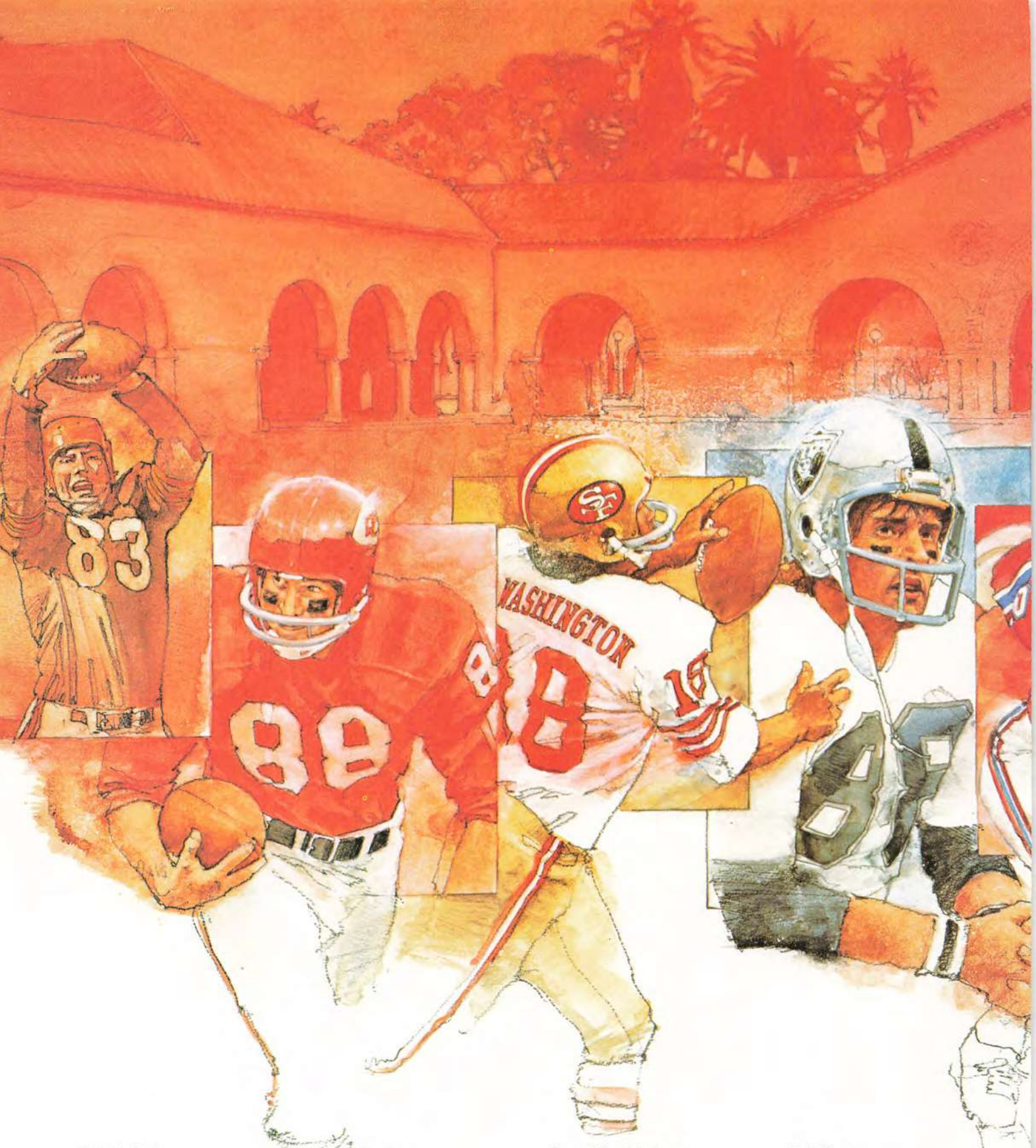


Jim Plunkett
Quarterback
Stanford: 1968-1970
NFL: New England Patriots, 1971-75
San Francisco 49ers, 1976-77
Oakland/Los Angeles Raiders, 1978-1984

John Elway
Quarterback
Stanford: 1979-1982
NFL: Denver Broncos, 1983-84

Darrin Nelson
Halfback
Stanford: 1977-78, 1980-81
NFL: Minnesota Vikings, 1982-84

Turk Schonert
Quarterback
Stanford: 1977-79
NFL: Cincinnati Bengals, 1980-84

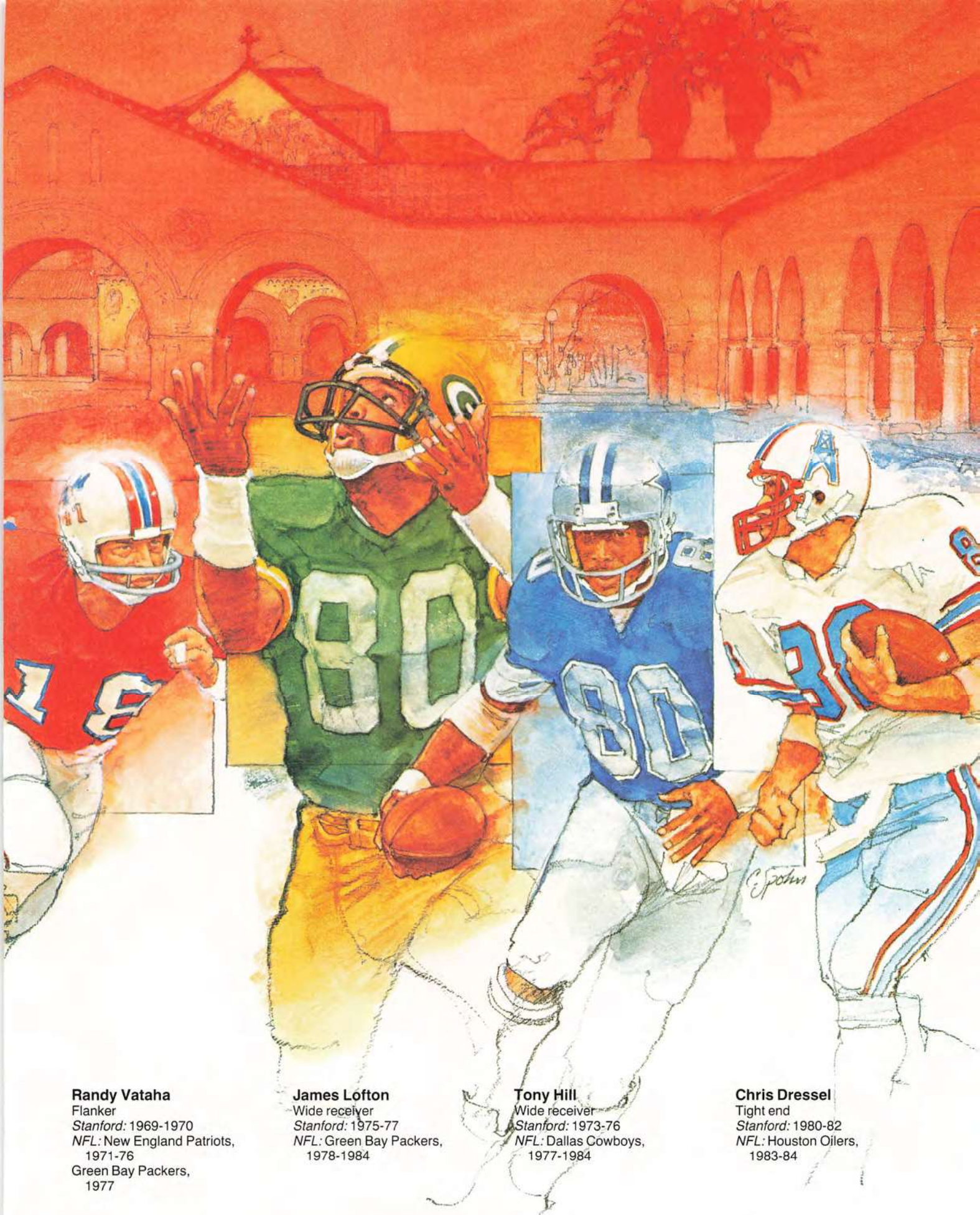


Bill McColl
End
Stanford: 1949-1951
NFL: Chicago Bears, 1952-59

Chris Burford
End
Stanford: 1957-59
NFL: Dallas Texans, 1960-62
Kansas City Chiefs, 1963-67

Gene Washington
Quarterback, flanker
Stanford: 1966-68 (QB-FL)
NFL: San Francisco 49ers, 1969-1977 (FL)
Detroit Lions, 1979 (FL)

Bob Moore
Tight end
Stanford: 1968-1970
NFL: Oakland Raiders, 1971-75
Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 1976-77
Denver Broncos, 1978



Randy Vataha
Flanker
Stanford: 1969-1970
NFL: New England Patriots, 1971-76
Green Bay Packers, 1977

James Lofton
Wide receiver
Stanford: 1975-77
NFL: Green Bay Packers, 1978-1984

Tony Hill
Wide receiver
Stanford: 1973-76
NFL: Dallas Cowboys, 1977-1984

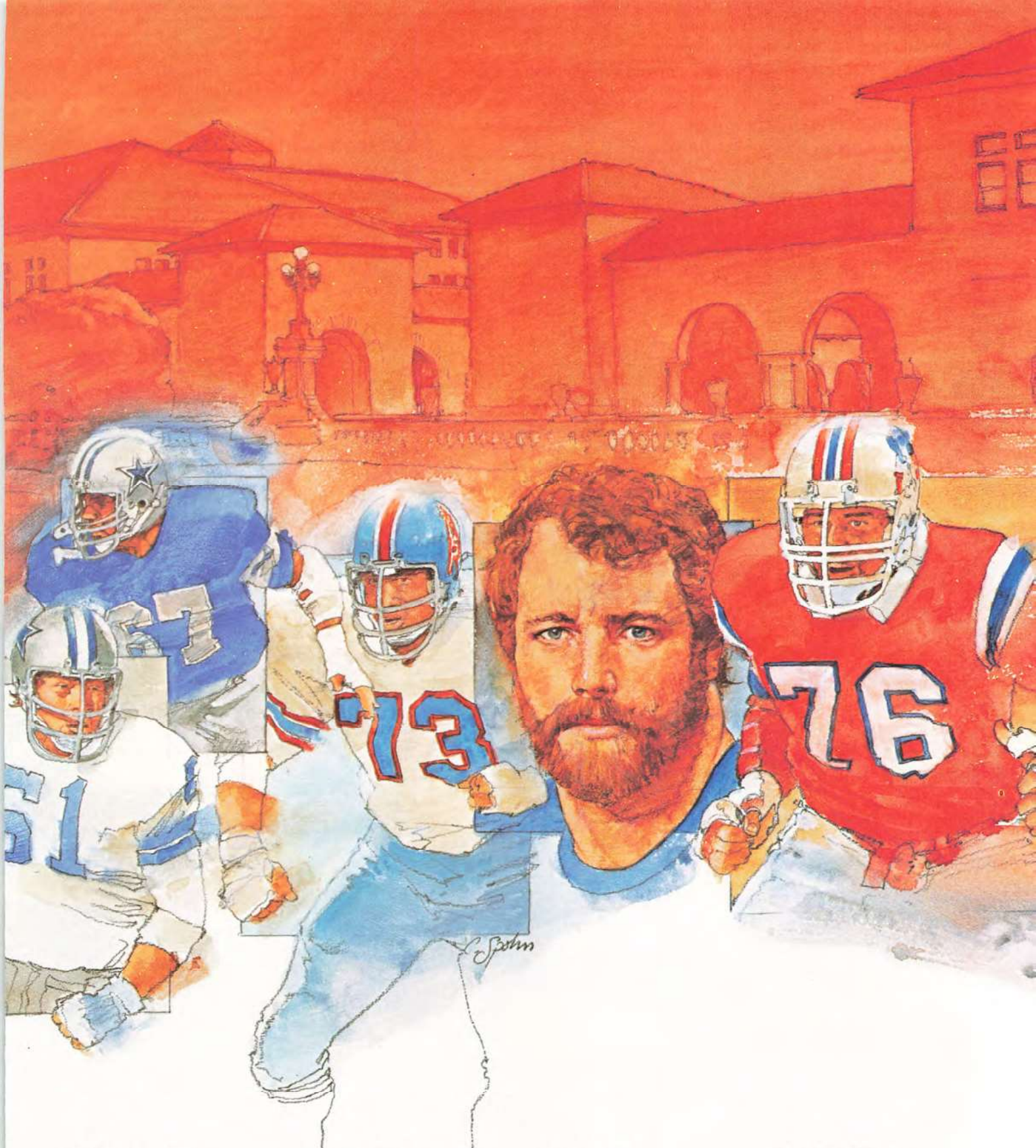
Chris Dressel
Tight end
Stanford: 1980-82
NFL: Houston Oilers, 1983-84

Paul Wiggin
Offensive tackle, defensive end
Stanford: 1954-56 (OT)
NFL: Cleveland Browns, 1957-1967 (DE)

Malcolm Snider
Offensive tackle
Stanford: 1966-68
NFL: Atlanta Falcons, 1969-1971
Green Bay Packers, 1972-74

John Wilbur
Guard
Stanford: 1963-65
NFL: Dallas Cowboys, 1966-69
Los Angeles Rams, 1970
Washington Redskins, 1971-73

Jeff Siemon
Linebacker
Stanford: 1969-1971
NFL: Minnesota Vikings, 1972-1982



Pat Donovan (67)
Defensive end,
offensive tackle
Stanford: 1972-74 (DE)
NFL: Dallas Cowboys,
1975-1983 (OT)

Blaine Nye (61)
Guard
Stanford: 1965-67
NFL: Dallas Cowboys,
1968-1976

Greg Sampson
Defensive end,
defensive tackle,
offensive tackle
Stanford: 1969-1971 (DE)
NFL: Houston Oilers,
1972-78 (DT-OT)

Gordon King
Offensive tackle
Stanford: 1975-77
NFL: New York Giants,
1978-1984

Brian Holloway
Offensive tackle
Stanford: 1978-1980
NFL: New England Patriots,
1981-84

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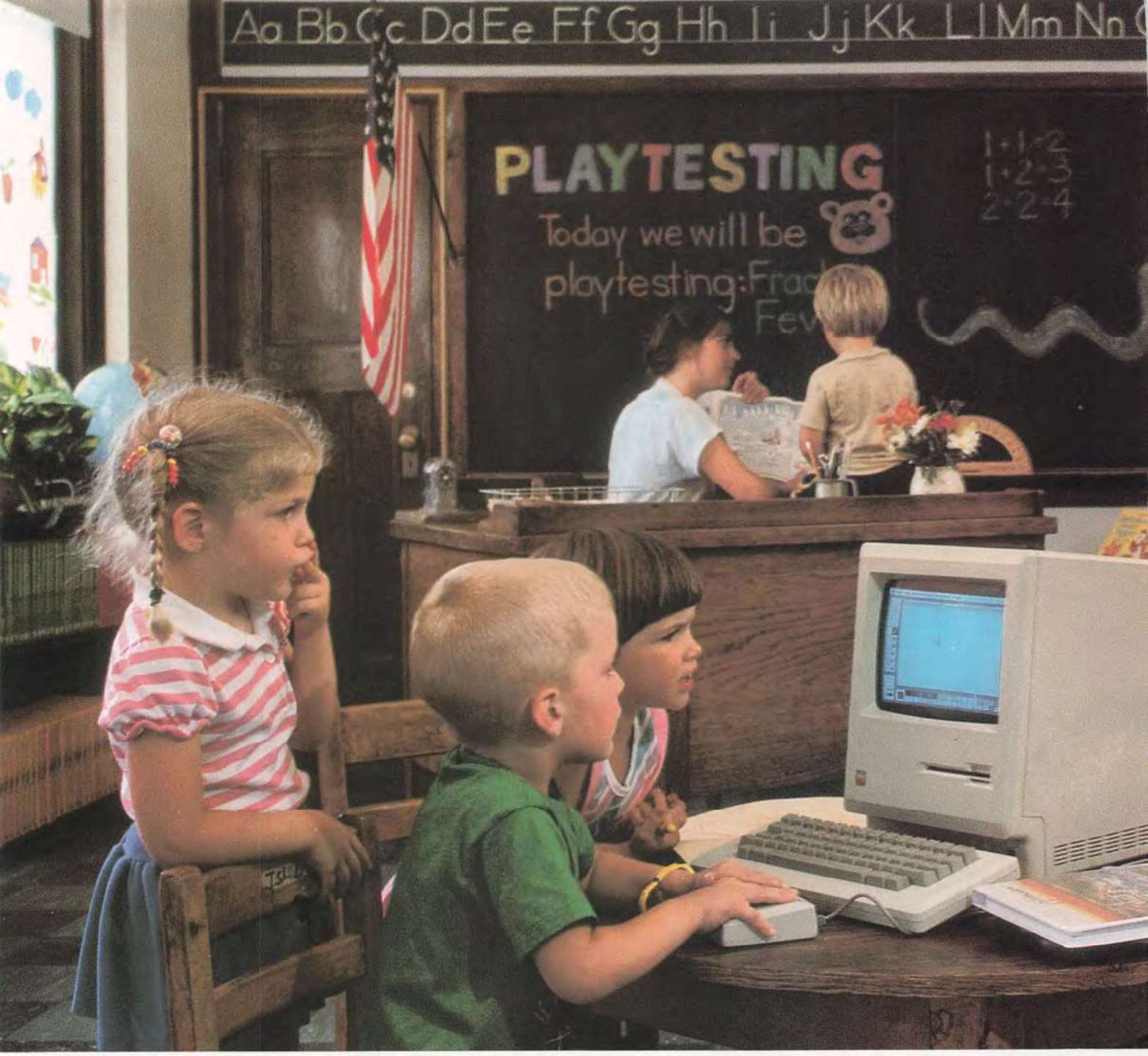

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most people had always defeated the reason I had for playing, which was to be more free. Chuck knew what my interests were, and he thought those were the same qualities a quarterback should have, so he let me develop as myself. If it hadn't been for him, I would have quit and played baseball."

But Brodie did play football, and, after finishing fourth in the nation in passing as a sophomore and a junior, he led the country in 1956. He was named All-America quarterback ahead of Heisman Trophy winner Paul Hornung of Notre Dame, Sonny Jurgensen of Duke, Len Dawson of Purdue, and Milt Plum of Penn State. Brodie then played for the San Francisco 49ers for 17 years, throwing for more than 31,000 yards and 214 touchdowns and guiding his team to three NFC West titles.

Taylor eventually retired, but the players kept on coming. In 1958, Stanford became the only team ever to have two quarterbacks, Bob Nicolet and Dick Norman, each finish in the nation's top 10 in passing. The next year, Norman led the nation in passing, and his top receiver, Chris Burford, was the nation's receiving leader. Both later played professional football, Norman with Chicago and Burford with Kansas City, where he had an all-pro, eight-year career.

A decade later, under the tutelage of head coach John Ralston and assistant Dick Vermeil, came Stanford's most honored player. Jim Plunkett finished his All-America career as the Rose Bowl's most valuable player, the NCAA record holder for total offense, and the Heisman Trophy winner. He then became the first player taken in the 1971 NFL draft, was rookie of the year with New England, and twice has led the Oakland/Los Angeles Raiders to Super Bowl victories.

Plunkett also teamed with several outstanding receivers at Stanford. As a sophomore, he threw to Gene Washington, who set conference records for receiving and then spent nine years with the 49ers, gaining more yards receiving (6,664 on 371 receptions) than any other player in the history of the franchise. Plunkett also passed to tight end Bob Moore and flanker Randy Vataha, each of whom had lengthy careers in the NFL.

Plunkett was followed by an incredible succession of quarterbacks at Stanford. Don Bunce led the Indians (now known as the Cardinal) to another upset victory in the Rose Bowl before going to medical school. (He is now a team doctor for Stanford.) Mike Boryla started for two years and then played in the NFL. With the Philadelphia Eagles, he went to the 1976 Pro Bowl and threw two fourth-quarter touchdown passes to lead the NFC to a 23-20 come-from-behind victory. Guy Benjamin (whose targets included future NFC Pro Bowl wide receivers Tony Hill and James Lofton) and Steve Dils each led the nation in passing under head coach Bill Walsh before entering the NFL. Turk Schonert also led the nation's passers and now plays for Cincinnati. Finally came John Elway, perhaps the best of the bunch. Elway, whose father now coaches the Cardinal, established himself as one of the greatest college passers ever (and threw passes to two-time All-America and current Chicago Bears wide receiver Ken Margerum). He was the first pick of the 1983 NFL draft, and twice has led the Denver Broncos into the playoffs.

Despite the heritage from Albert to Elway, "The Farm" also has produced many players adept in other phases of the game. Former quarterback Dave Lewis led the NFL in punting in 1970 and 1971 at Cincinnati. Steve Thurlow and Scott Laidlaw were NFL running backs. Darrin Nelson, now with the Minnesota Vikings, ran for more than 4,000 yards in his career, and finished as the number-two receiver in the history of college football, with 214 receptions.

Nelson, like the quarterbacks, needed help up front, and Stanford also has a heritage of dauntless linemen. Bill Corbus and Bobby Reynolds were All-America linemen in the 1930s. Chuck Taylor made All-America at guard in 1942. Paul Wiggin, head coach at Stanford from 1980-83, was a two-time All-America tackle and team co-captain with Brodie. He was an all-pro defensive end for Cleveland in the 1960s. Malcolm Snider, Blaine Nye, John Wilbur, Gordon King, and Brian Holloway all had—or are having—outstanding NFL careers as offensive linemen.

Stanford also has produced some quality defenders. Greg Sampson was a member of the "Thunder-Chickens" defensive line before making a successful transition to the offensive line with the Houston Oilers. Similarly, two-time All-America defensive end Pat Donovan moved to offensive tackle with the Dallas Cowboys, where he was named to four AFC-NFC Pro Bowls. Safety Benny Barnes played 11 years with the Cowboys, Jeff Siemon became a Pro Bowl linebacker for Minnesota, and defensive ends Roger Stilwell and Duncan McColl (son of Bill McColl) each were named All-America. Duncan's younger brother Milt plays for the 49ers.

The three montages on the preceding pages feature some of the greatest Stanford players. Most went on to successful NFL careers. Some will be remembered as all-time greats. And they have all enhanced the tradition and mystique of football, Stanford-style. ■

Stanford in Statistics

The following chart shows the Stanford quarterbacks who have finished among the nation's top-20 passers since 1950. No other school has equaled either Stanford's six individual passing champions or the school's 26 quarterbacks who finished in the NCAA's top 20 in that 35-year period.

Mike Boryla

Steve Dils

Year	Player	Att	Comp	Pct	Yards	TD	Rank
1950	Gary Kerkorian*	151	80	53.0	1148	6	17
1951	Gary Kerkorian	186	103	55.4	1417	7	13
1953	Bobby Garrett*	205	118	57.6	1637	17	1
1954	John Brodie*	163	81	49.7	937	2	4
1955	John Brodie	133	76	57.1	1024	5	4
1956	John Brodie	240	139	57.9	1633	12	1
1957	Jack Douglas	146	78	53.4	957	10	8
1958	Bob Nicolet	146	77	52.7	724	3	7
	Dick Norman*	133	76	57.1	717	3	8
1959	Dick Norman	263	152	57.8	1963	11	1
1960	Dick Norman	201	95	47.3	1057	4	9
1968	Jim Plunkett*	268	142	53.0	2156	14	14
1969	Jim Plunkett	336	197	58.6	2673	20	5
1970	Jim Plunkett	358	191	53.4	2715	18	6
1971	Don Bunce	297	162	54.5	2265	13	7
1972	Mike Boryla*	350	183	52.3	2284	14	4
1973	Mike Boryla	256	140	54.7	1629	17	11
1974	Mike Cordova	295	128	43.4	1569	10	11
1975	Mike Cordova	231	106	45.9	1311	11	19
1976	Guy Benjamin*	295	170	57.6	1982	12	3
1977	Guy Benjamin	330	208	63.0	2521	19	1
1978	Steve Dils*	391	247	63.2	2943	22	1
1979	Turk Schonert*	221	148	67.0	1922	19	1
1980	John Elway*	379	248	65.4	2889	27	3
1981	John Elway	366	214	58.5	2674	20	15
1982	John Elway	405	262	64.7	3242	24	3

*Became NFL quarterback

MADE TO BE

BROKEN

A Brief History of the Super Bowl Rushing Record

BY RICK GOSSELIN

When Jim Taylor was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1976, he knew it only meant enshrinement for his rushing records, not immunity for them. Some of Taylor's Green Bay Packers records are more than 20 years old now. But one of them—a significant one—lasted only for a season.

Back in 1967, Taylor established the first Super Bowl rushing record with a modest (by his standards) 53 yards against American Football League champion Kansas City. ("Hmmm," Taylor says 18 years later, "I thought it was more like eighty or ninety yards.") However, the 16 times he punched into the line that day in his final game with Green Bay wore down the Kansas City defenders and softened them up for quarterback Bart Starr, who threw for 250 yards in the Packers' 35-10 victory.

> "It was four or six yards every down, and just pound people. . . .It was consistent football."
>
> —Jim Taylor

Taylor was the cornerstone of one of the greatest ball-control offenses in pro football history. He transferred Woody Hayes's Ohio State philosophy of "three yards and a cloud of dust" to the NFL, where it read "four-and-a-half yards and a string of bodies."

"That's what we did for years and years," Taylor says. "That was the basic philosophy of [Vince] Lombardi. That's what got us there. We specialized in defying people to stop us. We didn't care how big or how strong or how fast [other teams] were; they were playing against the Green Bay Packers. We had the self-confidence. We were the champions year-in and year-out. We just continued to do [in the Super Bowl] what got us there.

"It wasn't colorful. We didn't have a Raymond Berry or a Jimmy Orr catching sixty-yard touchdown passes. It was four or six yards every down, and just pound people. Bart Starr only had to throw fifteen or sixteen times a game. It was consistent football. We ran sixty-five percent

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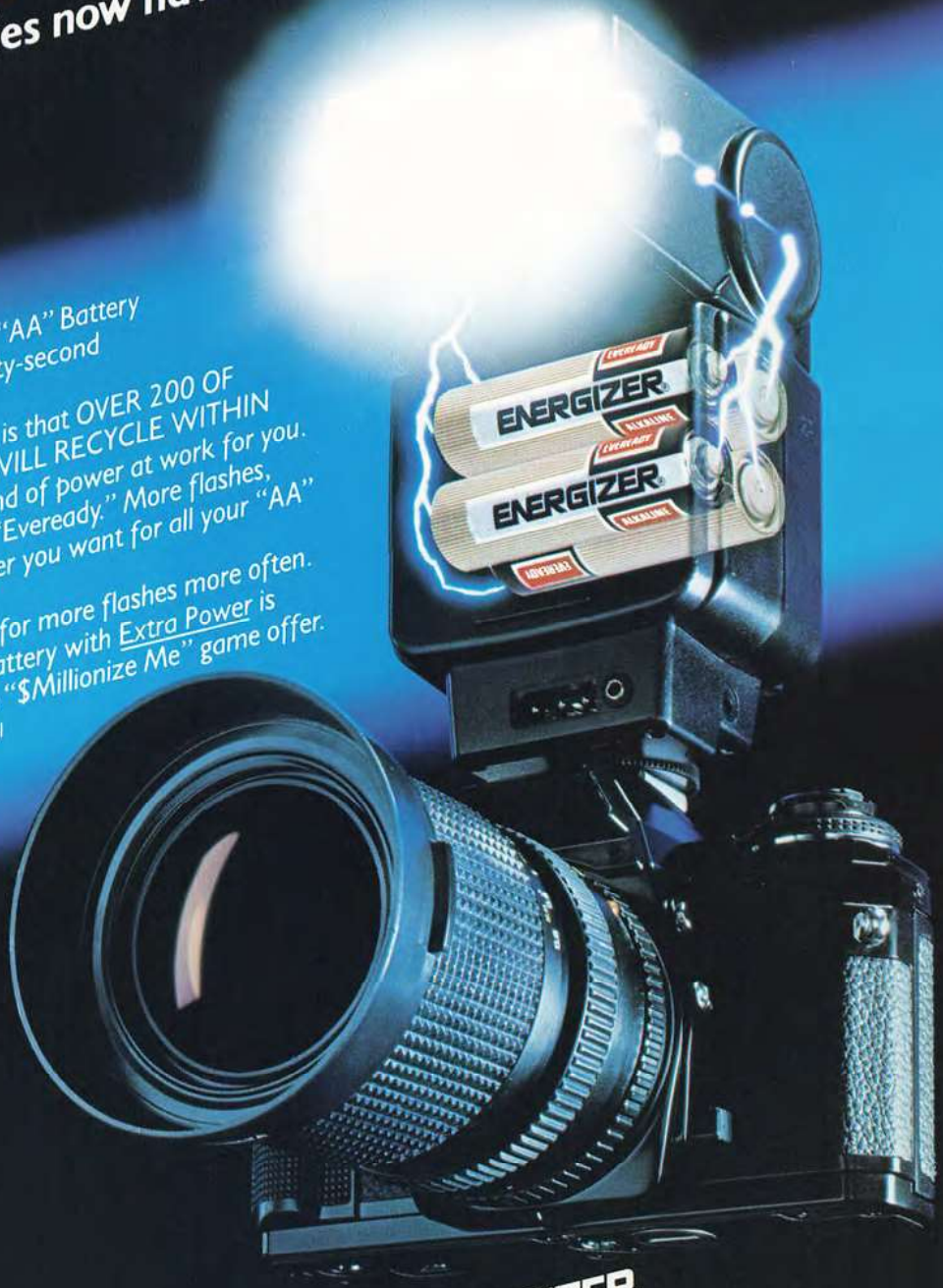

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of the time. We felt you had to control the football and keep it away from the other team.''

Taylor's Super Bowl record stood for a year. He joined the expansion New Orleans Saints in a free agent transaction the following summer. But even without him, the Packers earned a return trip to the Super Bowl against the Oakland Raiders. Another Green Bay fullback, Ben Wilson, removed Taylor's name from the top of the Super Bowl rushing list.

Wilson's 62 rushing yards in Super Bowl II against the Raiders was his best game of the season and also a fitting way to end his career. He was waived by the Packers on the final cut prior to the 1968 season and never played another game in the NFL.

Taylor and Wilson were the forerunners of a surprising trend of Super Bowl dominance by power backs. The Super Bowl rushing record was held by strong, bruising-type runners for the first 17 years of the game's history. It wasn't until last year that Marcus Allen, a quick, elusive back, rushed for 191 yards in Super Bowl XVIII to help the Los Angeles Raiders overwhelm the Washington Redskins 38-9.

Wilson's Super Bowl performance, like Taylor's before him, held up for only one year. Matt Snell got the record when he gained 121 yards in the New York Jets' 16-7 victory over the Baltimore Colts. Most people assume Snell was the first back to pass the 100-yard mark in a Super Bowl. But in the same game, Tom Matte of the Colts, propelled by a 58-yard run in the second quarter, became the first ball carrier to top the 100-yard plateau. His 116 yards for the day were surpassed late in the game as Snell ran down the clock for the Jets.

> ''I went back to the huddle and said 'These guys aren't so tough. We're supposed to be the underdogs and there he is lying on the ground.''
>
> —Matt Snell

Snell's record lasted until Super Bowl VIII, when Larry Csonka rushed for 145 yards in a record 33 carries to lift the Miami Dolphins to their second consecutive NFL championship with a 24-7 triumph over Minnesota. But Csonka's two marks stood up for just one year. Franco Harris ran for 158 yards on 34 carries in Super Bowl IX to provide the thrust in Pittsburgh's 16-6 victory over Minnesota.

Harris remained in the record book for eight years before another punishing rusher, John Riggins, issued an eviction notice. Riggins battered the Dolphins for 166 yards on 38 carries in Super Bowl XVII as the Redskins prevailed, 27-17. Then came Allen with his outstanding performance last January while Riggins was watching from the other sideline.

Granted, some of the finest running backs of the era never reached the Super Bowl. Gale Sayers, O.J. Simpson, Walter Payton, Earl Campbell, Billy Sims, and, more recently, George Rogers, Eric Dickerson, and Curt Warner all have had seasons end short of the Super Bowl. But 1,000-yard rushers Mike Garrett, Chuck Foreman, Tony Dorsett, Wendell Tyler, and Wilbert Montgomery all played in the Super Bowl, and all failed to rush for 100 yards.

Power runners traditionally have been the ball-control backs; former Kansas City Chiefs coach Hank Stram calls them the ''thunder'' backs. The speed merchants have been the game-breakers, whom Stram calls the ''lightning'' backs. And in a game the magnitude of the Super Bowl, coaches have traditionally favored ball-control; 60 minutes of thunder as opposed to an occasional bolt of lightning.

The offensive personalities of the Packers, Jets, Dolphins, Steelers, and Redskins put their big backs into position for great games, and Taylor, Wilson, Snell, Csonka, Harris, and Riggins played them.

''You don't change your personality that much going into the Super Bowl game,'' says Stram, who coached in Super Bowls I and IV. ''You do what you do best. Like they say, you dance with the girl you brought to the dance. You don't deviate much from your personality. Snell was New York's leading rusher

during the regular season. The same was true of Harris at Pittsburgh and Csonka at Miami. Riggins has been the big gun for the Redskins, Allen the big gun for the Raiders. That wouldn't change whether they were playing in the season opener or the Super Bowl.

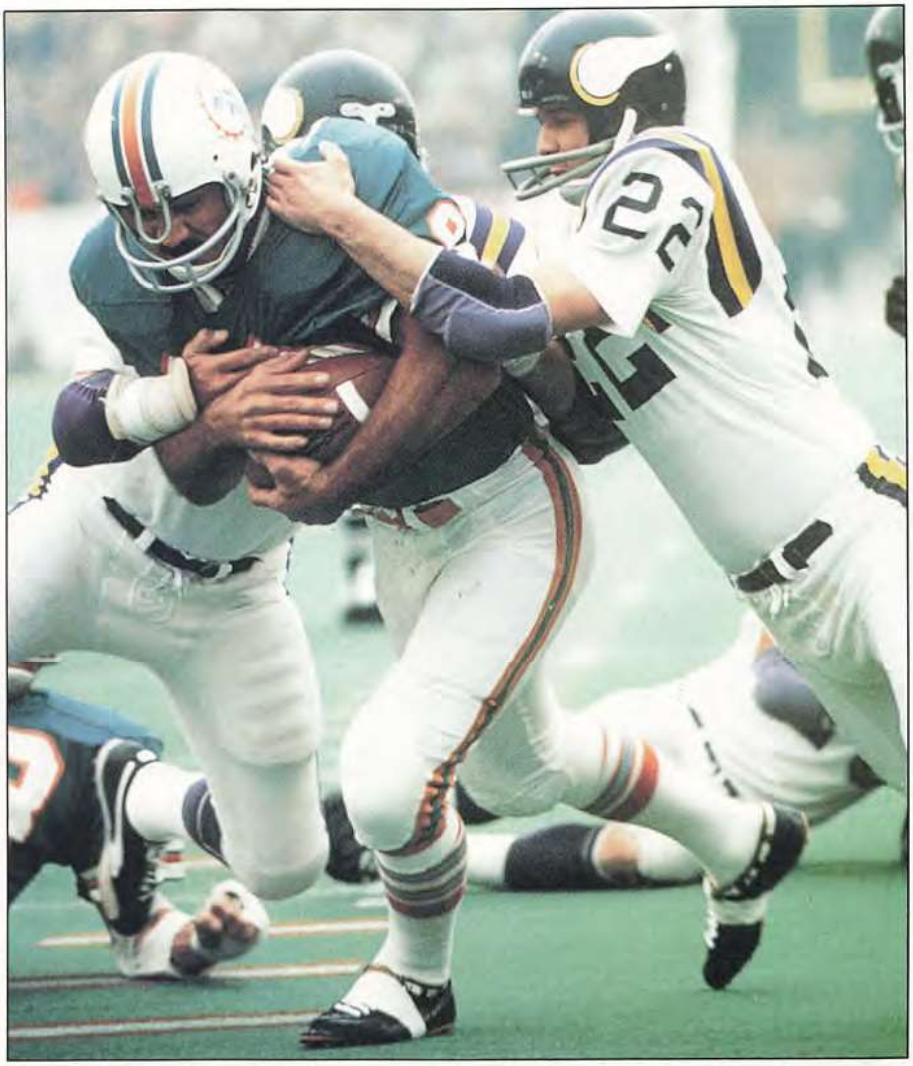
"The guys who did well all season long to get you there are going to have the chance to do well in the Super Bowl game. I don't think coaches are going to say, 'This is what we did all year long so we're not going to let the power back carry the ball. We're going to fool them.' You're going to continue what you do best. A Riggins practices every day and plays every game. That's the way Snell was. Csonka also was a bread-and-butter guy. Their teams were ball-control type teams. They were move-the-chains backs. They get the first down, move the chains, get the first down, move the chains.

> "When Miami gets ahead of you, Csonka is going to carry the ball twenty-five times. That's one of their strengths."
> —Bud Grant

"You'd say that [Don] Shula, when the Dolphins had Csonka, looked very conservative. They'd run the ball, run the ball, run the ball, and then throw it in predictable situations. That's the way they played all year long. That was their personality. I don't think they ever shut things down in a Super Bowl. That's just the way they played the game. Joe Namath threw the ball as well as anybody I've ever seen [in Super Bowl III], taking advantage of the Baltimore blitz. Then they came at the Colts with Snell. That's what they did all year long."

Snell's performance may have surprised the football public. After all, the Colts had a veteran defense that had led the NFL in fewest points allowed (144). Their names were a who's who of defense: Bubba Smith and Ordell Braase at end, Fred Miller and Billy Ray Smith at tackle, Mike Curtis, Don Shinnick, and Dennis Gaubatz at linebacker, and Bobby Boyd, Lenny Lyles, Jerry Logan, and Rick Volk in the secondary.

> Harris had rushed for 1,000 yards in two of his first three seasons and already was a Pro Bowl veteran.



But his performance didn't surprise Snell himself. Like his more celebrated teammate, Namath, Snell, along with his Super Bowl roommate Emerson Boozer (the Jets' other starting back), approached the game as a personal challenge.

"A couple of days before the game," Snell says, "one of the papers came out with a comparison chart. The only position we rated even equal was Namath versus [Earl] Morrall. In all other aspects we were rated inferior. Emerson and I felt we were as good as Matte and [Jerry] Hill and the only way to prove

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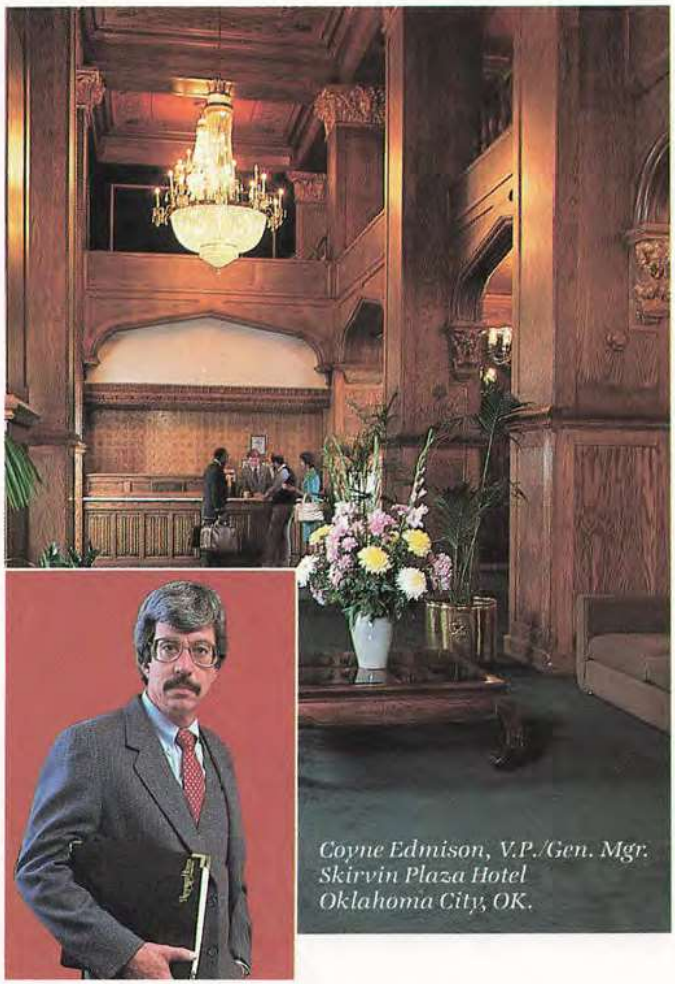

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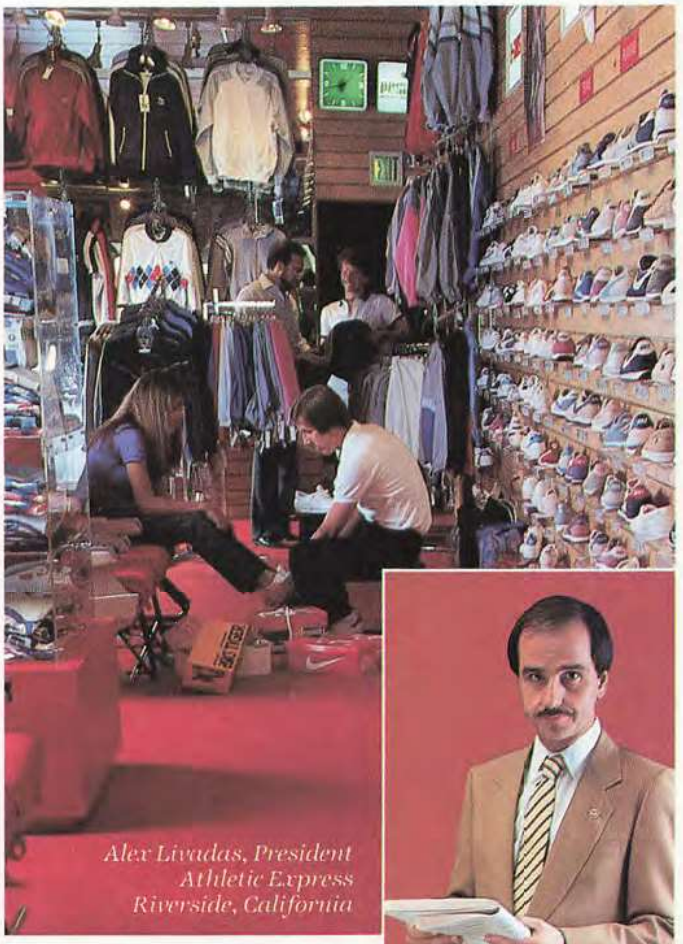
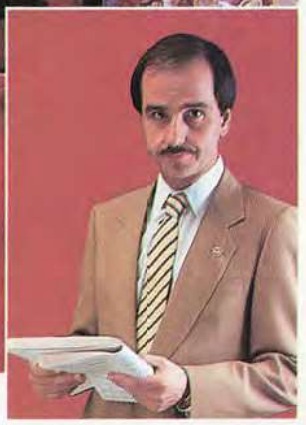


Alex Livadas, President
Athletic Express
Riverside, California



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that was to show them—not talk about it. So we decided not to go to the big Thursday [pregame] press conference. We would have said, 'We think we're as good as they are', but no one would have listened. We were fined, but we really didn't care. Emerson and I made a pact to do our talking on game day.

"We received the opening kickoff and we started out on something like the sixteen- or seventeen-yard line. All week long Weeb [New York coach Weeb Ewbank] had stressed that we shouldn't try to sweep this team because of the great pursuit of Curtis and those other guys who really went to the ball. So we were going to start with an old reliable off-tackle play. When we went up to the line, I don't know what happened but Namath checked off for some reason to a weak-side sweep. I looked at Boozer and he looked at me and we both knew we heard it right.

"It broke clean. . .so clean it surprised me. I was ten to fifteen yards down the field when Rick Volk came up to tackle me. He ducked his head at the last second and I hit him with my knee. That knocked him out of the ball game. I went back to the huddle and said, 'These guys aren't so tough. We're supposed to be the underdogs and there he is lying on the ground. He isn't even in the game.' The other guys said, 'You're right. They aren't Supermen in the NFL.' Then we really got after them."

> "Give me the ball twenty to twenty-five times," Riggins told Gibbs, "and we'll do it."

Snell scored the game's opening touchdown on a four-yard run and wound up carrying the ball 30 times. His longest run of the day was that opening carry of 12 yards, but his 4.0-yard average prevented the Colts from teeing off on Namath, who finished 17 of 28 passing for 206 yards to earn most valuable player honors.

"When you play on a team with a guy like Joe, a guy who guarantees victory and has that charisma, it's tough for anyone else to have a high profile," Snell says. "A lot of people came up to me and said,'There should have been co-MVP's, you and Namath.' But look how many passes George Sauer caught [eight for 133 yards], and Randy Beverly had two interceptions. It could have gone to a lot of people. . .but when you played on a team with Namath, it always went one way.

"That was no problem with the rest of us; all we wanted to do was win. The Jets felt so bad about it they gave me sort of an MVP trophy of their own: They gave me a 1969 El Dorado. That wasn't too bad a consolation prize."

Unlike Snell, Csonka and Harris both had their reputations firmly in place before ever setting their respective Super Bowl rushing records. Csonka rushed for 1,000 yards for three consecutive seasons from 1971 through 1973 and also had a 100-yard game in Super Bowl VII. His 112 yards on 15 carries that day helped the Dolphins cap their perfect 17-0 1972 season with a 14-7 victory over Washington.

In Super Bowl VIII against the Vikings, the Dolphins jumped out to a 14-0 first-quarter lead. Minnesota defenders were fed a steady diet of Csonka the rest of the day. His 145-yard (on 33 carries), two-touchdown performance earned the

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to go
HAWAIIAN
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JUICY
RED

Miami tank most valuable player honors.

"When Miami gets ahead of you," Minnesota coach Bud Grant lamented at the time, "Csonka is going to carry the ball twenty-five times. That's one of their strengths."

Harris had rushed for 1,000 yards in two of his first three seasons, 1972 and 1974, and was already a Pro Bowl veteran when Pittsburgh lined up against Minnesota in Super Bowl IX in January, 1975.

> "I've never seen a better back in the playoffs. Allen proved he's a class player, a big-game player."
>
> —Tom Flores

A second-quarter safety put the Steelers in front 2-0 at halftime. Then Harris gave Pittsburgh what would prove to be an insurmountable 9-0 lead with a nine-yard touchdown run on the Steelers' first possession of the second half. Harris also was named the game's most valuable player; his 158 yards were 39 more than what the whole Minnesota offense could muster the entire game.

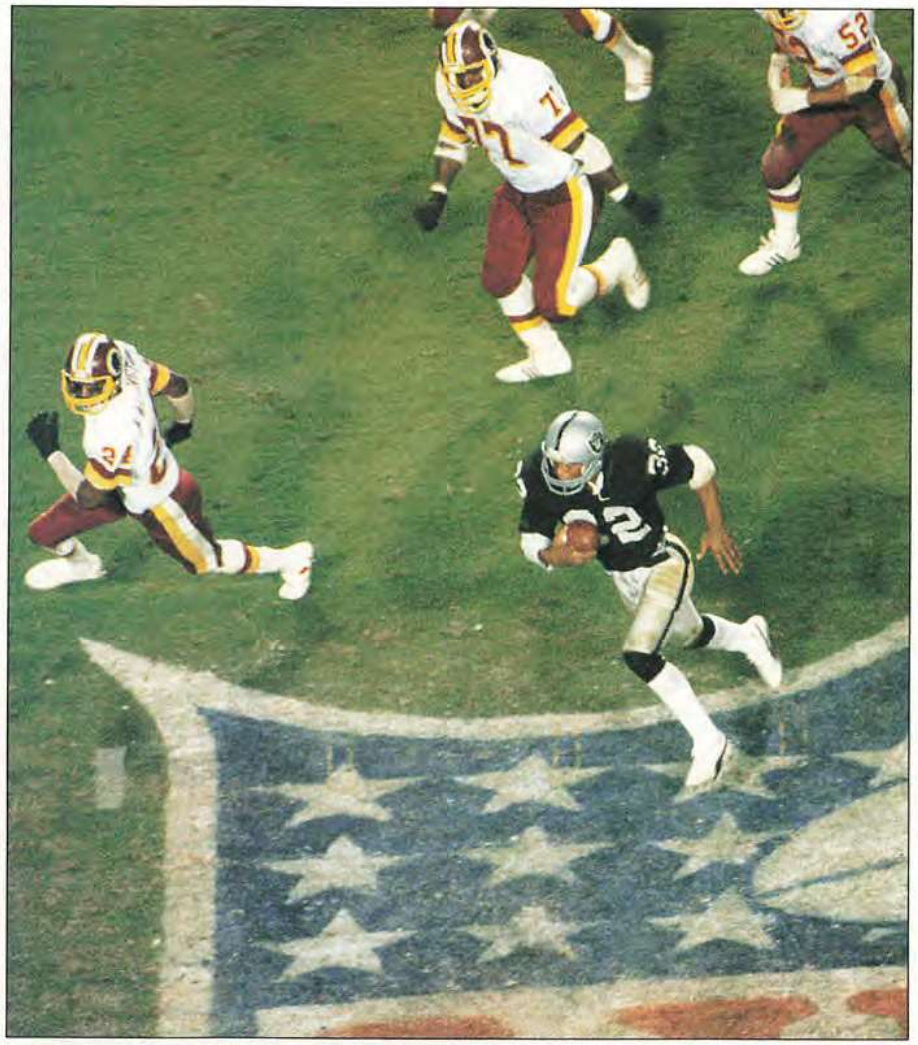
Harris's mark was a milestone until January of 1983, when Riggins went to Washington head coach Joe Gibbs and asked for the football. Riggins had not rushed for 1,000 yards during the 1982 season. No one did because of the player strike.

But Riggins had rushed for 553 yards that year. And Washington had carved out an 8-1 regular-season record to sit atop the NFC playoff pool, which qualified eight teams for the postseason. Prior to the opening playoff game against the Detroit Lions, Riggins presented Gibbs with a request—and a promise.

"Give me the ball twenty to twenty-five times," Riggins told Gibbs, "and we'll do it."

Riggins did it, and the Redskins helped him keep his word. Overall, he rushed for 119 yards against the Lions, 185 against the Vikings, and 140 against the Dallas Cowboys before gaining his record 166 yards against the Dolphins—an amazing total of 610 yards in four postseason games. He won the most valuable player award the old-fashioned way: by earning it.

Riggins's Super Bowl game was characterized by one carry, a 43-yard fourth-quarter blast over left tackle for a touchdown. The run came on a fourth-and-one



situation, and moved the Redskins from a four-point deficit into the lead for good at 20-17.

One spectacular play also characterized Allen's record Super Bowl effort the following year: a 74-yard run on a busted play in the third quarter that demoralized the Redskins and pushed the Raiders into an overwhelming 35-9 lead.

Allen swept left and, finding a wall of potential Washington tacklers, made a 180-degree turn in the Los Angeles backfield and headed back the other way. It turned out to be the longest run from scrimmage in Super Bowl history. Not bad for the former Heisman Trophy winner, whose one rap coming out of college was a lack of game-breaking speed.

"It was my fault it ended up [a broken play]," Allen said of his Super Bowl-record run. "I should have been inside, but I was outside so I had to try to make something out of nothing. They said I couldn't go the distance, and I guess I proved them wrong."

"I've never seen a better back in the playoffs," Los Angeles coach Tom Flores added. "He proved he's a class player, a big-game player. He also proved that he can run faster than most people think. He's the most complete back I've seen in a long time."

The performances by Riggins and Allen in the last two games have signaled a new Super Bowl rushing trend: the feature back.

"The game has changed," Stram says. "Riggins played in a one-back situation, so he wasn't a true fullback. Marcus Allen is an I-formation back, a tailback. He's their feature guy. Snell, Csonka, Harris...Those guys were true power backs in the standard two-back system. But you're going to get a different picture because of the formations in today's game. You sit guys like Riggins and Allen back there and let them pick their hole...those guys have the talent to destroy you. Eric Dickerson, Curt Warner—it's given the running game a new look."

But one-back, two-back, tailback, lightning back, or full-on thunderback, it's still football. Allen's record is sure to fall one day just as Taylor's initial mark was sure to fall. Maybe not this year, but someday. That's the nature of football, the nature of the Super Bowl... and the nature of records. ■

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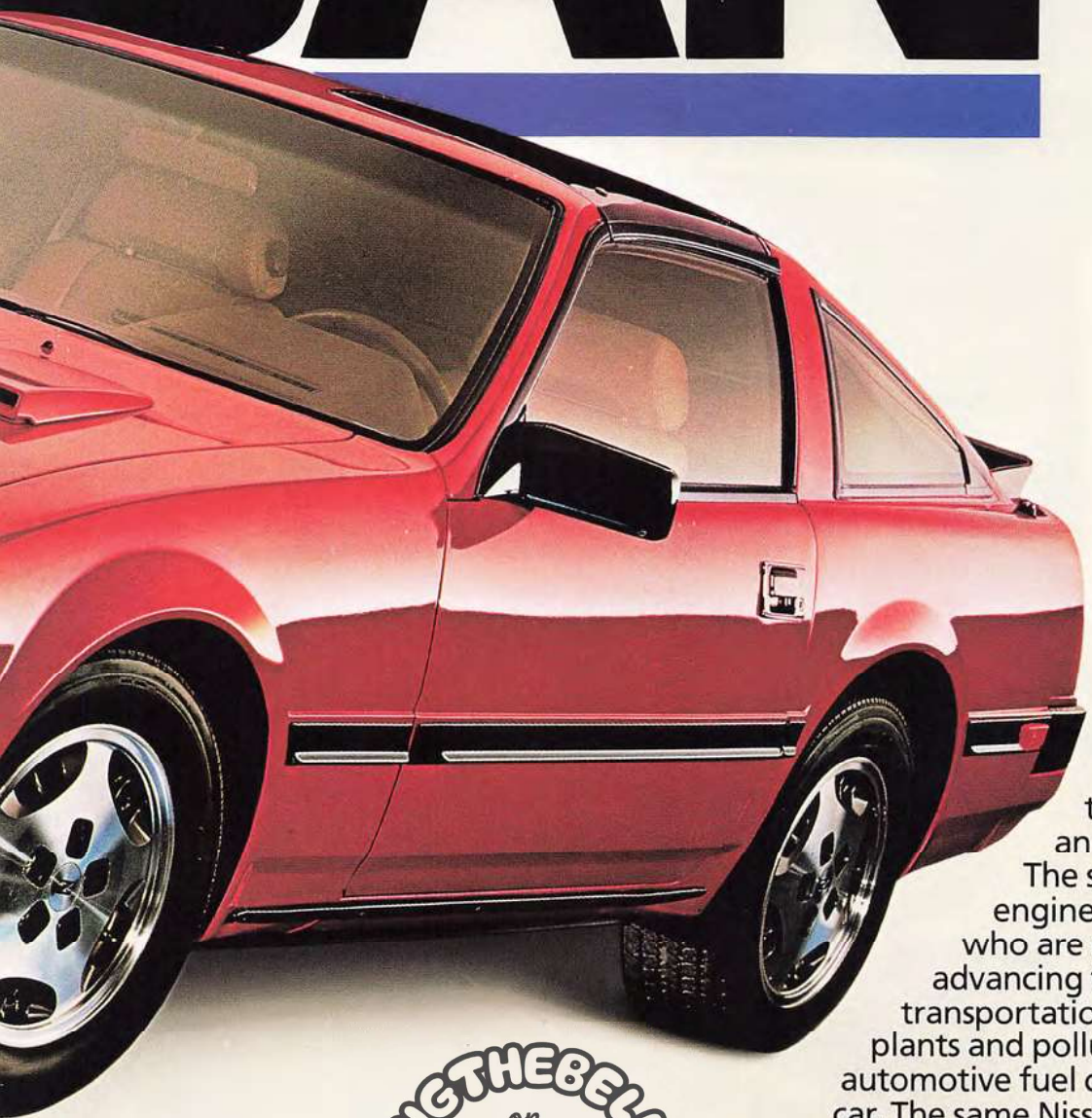

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A REVIEW OF THE 1984 SEASON BY LARRY ELDRIDGE, JR.

THE SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR

The final verdict is imminent.

After 232 games. . .and more than 1,000 touchdowns, 600 field goals, 8,500 first downs, 2,500 penalties, 14,000 passes, 7,500 receptions, 500 interceptions, 2,000 punts, 800 fumbles, 1,000 quarterback sacks, and 12,000 tackles—and an incalculable number of missed tackles—there's only one thing left to do: decide a champion.

That will be determined today. The purpose of this sequential retrospective is to provide an exploded view of the NFL's sixty-fifth season to date.

If you've been paying close attention, the section should be a pleasant refresher on how today's combatants survived their respective regular season and playoff obstacle courses to become certifiably Super—and how 26 teams didn't.

If your attention strayed even briefly during the season, consider this a crash course to get you fully up-to-date.

To begin, a question: Did much of anything go according to design this year?

Answer: Of course not.

Oh, there were some easy calls. Miami head coach Don Shula steered his team to the playoffs, as usual. The 49ers won the NFC West, as anticipated. Chicago running back Walter Payton broke Jim Brown's all-time NFL rushing record, as expected. San Diego wide receiver Charlie Joiner eclipsed Charley Taylor as the NFL's all-time leading pass catcher, as destined. Washington's John Riggins (when hale) and the Los Angeles Raiders' Marcus Allen—the Super Bowl's two most recent superheroes—both accumulated football real estate and touchdowns in mass quantities, as customary. Two coaches (New England's Ron Meyer and Cleveland's Sam Rutigliano) were fired in midseason, a pattern of late.

Yet even some of the predictable events contained surprises; you should have expected that, too.

For instance, was anyone really ready for Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino's surreal sophomore season? For that matter, was anyone really ready for the Dolphins? Not any of their AFC East brethren; they were all left gasping (and perhaps searching for Kryptonite) while the Dolphins streaked through the first 11 weeks unbeaten before finally losing to the Chargers and the Raiders.

Everyone had assumed Payton would break Brown's record (though Eric Dickerson's vault past O.J. Simpson's single-season rushing record was a more difficult forecast). The big question was whether or not Payton would break it before Pittsburgh's Franco Harris, who began the season with a 325-yard lead over Payton. Harris, however, began the season with Seattle—not the Steelers—and he wound up being released after the Seahawks' ninth game—without passing Brown.

Seattle signed Harris to help replace last year's rookie sensation, Curt Warner, who injured a knee in Week One. That's when most people wrote off the Seahawks. But with spitfire special teams and a punishing defense, they soared to their best record ever . . .and tangoed with Denver atop the AFC West in November and December.

After losing to the Broncos for the second time this year in Week Nine, the Raiders went into an abnormal three-game tailspin. That left the defending Super Bowl champions in a contrary posture in the AFC West, with only the wild card door to the playoffs open to them. (They did walk in that door, which then slammed shut on New England.)

Speaking of contrary, there was trouble in the AFC Central—with a capital T. Pittsburgh was basically in charge wire to wire. But considering the Steelers' hottest pursuer, Cincinnati, was in second place at the 10-week mark with a 3-7 record, it wasn't the most compelling divisional struggle (though it became interesting in December).

That distinction belonged to the haywire NFC East. It almost seemed as if Dallas, Washington, St. Louis, and the New York Giants—who alternately displayed a knack for untimely losses—were battling for wild card spots *instead* of the division title. Only one word for that capricious race: bizarre.

Things were a bit more settled for Chicago in the NFC Central, at least until quarterback Jim McMahon suffered a kidney injury. The Bears jumped off to an uncharacteristic good start, fought off a midseason surge by slow-starting Green Bay, and won their first division title since George Halas's 1963 NFL champions.

There never was a doubt for San Francisco in the NFC West, except, perhaps, for the question of when (or if) Pro Bowl defensive end Fred Dean would come to contract terms. By the time he did (just prior to Week Twelve), the 49ers were in total command.

Then, five weeks ago, the 10 playoff qualifiers returned to the starting blocks to begin the "second-season" elimination tournament that concludes today.

Now you're ready for a more detailed review. . .and if you're an Evelyn Wood alumnus, rejoice. You may succeed in speeding through the following chronicle before 3:00 P.M. If so, by kickoff you'll be *au courant*.

Don't worry if you can't complete the assignment before gametime. Take the program home with you. There's ample time for reflection; it's more than seven months until September 8. . .when it all begins again. ■

SEPT. 2

WEEK ONE

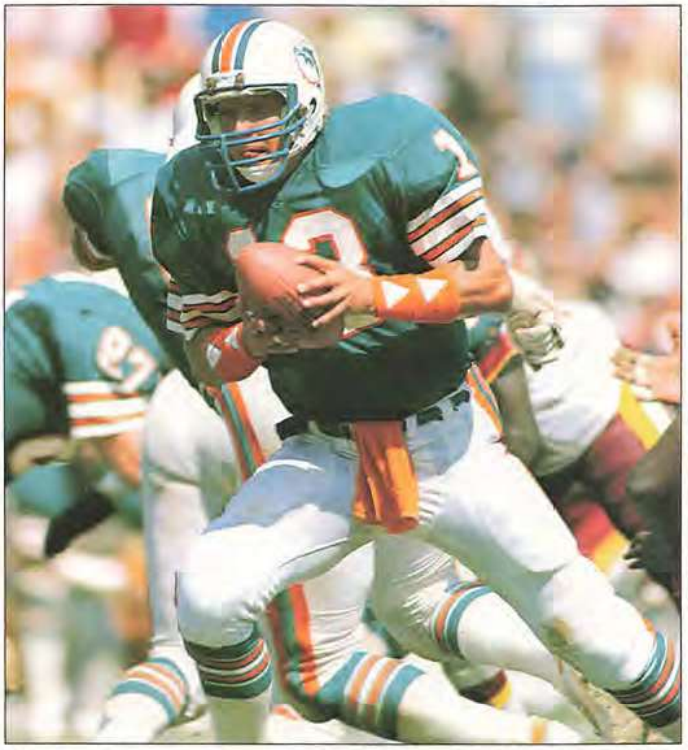
Opening games in the NFL can be a little like opening lines in a singles bar: some are winners and some are clunkers.

But, as in singles bars, first impressions sometimes (though not always) can be misleading. For instance, draw your own conclusions from the perfect 5-0 record posted by AFC West teams in Week One, as well as the AFC Central's winless weekend.

For impressive performance against a quality opponent, however, Miami's road victory over Washington rates as the week's top achievement. With second-year quarterback Dan Marino (21 of 28 for 311 yards, five touchdowns) and wide receiver Mark Duper (six receptions for 178 yards and two touchdowns) undressing the Redskins' secondary, Miami stunned the two-time defending NFC champions 35-17 at RFK Stadium.

"We didn't expect those quick inside passes [from Marino]," said Washington safety Tony Peters. "We worked on stopping the outs. Miami had shown that all preseason. It messes you up from a psychological standpoint. In your subconscious, you're thinking, 'This guy's going in, but he's got to go back out.' I would have bet the house they were going to do certain things. Well, I just lost the house."

"We are not the same team we were in 1983, or in 1982," said Redskins quarterback Joe Theismann. "We will have to develop this year."



Miami's second-year quarterback Dan Marino dazed and confused Washington's secondary; Miami coasted past the Redskins 35-17.

The Dolphins taste revenge two years after the fact, the Raiders shoot the Moon, and the AFC West gives notice to the league.

Seattle beat Cleveland 33-0, but lost Curt Warner for the season.

Seattle's 33-0 victory over Cleveland, however, was marred by the loss for the season of 1983 AFC rushing leader Curt Warner, who suffered a knee injury while planting his right foot on the Kingdome's artificial turf. "He didn't even get hit," said Seattle coach Chuck Knox, shaking his head. "He got hurt making a cut." The Seahawks subsequently signed former Steeler Franco Harris, who had been unable to come to contract terms with Pittsburgh.

"If we had won, I wouldn't be telling you that we're making reservations for Palo Alto," said Washington running back John Riggins after the Redskins lost 35-17 to Miami. "But because we lost, I'm not going to tell you we'll be home for Christmas."

The Raiders spoiled new Houston head coach Hugh Campbell's coming out party at the Astrodome with a 24-14 victory. The defending Super Bowl champions shook off a lethargic first half (they trailed 7-0 at halftime) with 24 second-half points, and gave the Oilers' heralded new quarterback, Warren Moon, a typical Raiders welcome to the NFL: they sacked the former Canadian Football League star five times, though he did pass for 201 yards and two touchdowns.

Sam Wyche, the Bengals' new boss, spent the week before Cincinnati's opener at Denver preparing his team to deal with quarterback John Elway. But then Elway suffered a shoulder separation early in the third quarter. In came backup Gary Kubiak, who took the Broncos on a 75-yard fourth-quarter scoring

Les Steckel's first outing as Minnesota's head coach didn't proceed quite the way he would have scripted it. San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts strafed the Vikings for 292 yards and two touchdowns passing, and the Chargers overwhelmed Minnesota 42-13 on Bud Grant Day at the Metrodome.

Steckel, an ex-marine Lieutenant, brushed off questions about any possible ill effects from the Leatherneck conditioning techniques he had implemented during the Vikings' training camp, a stark departure from the more mellow camps under Grant, who coached the Vikings from 1967-1983.

"A lot of people picked the Chargers to win the Super Bowl," Steckel said.

The other four AFC West clubs—Denver, Kansas City, Seattle, and the Los Angeles Raiders—all defeated opponents from the AFC Central.

NEWSMAKERS

Fencik *Gastineau* *McLemore* *Riggs*

The Falcons rig a new running offense

Many people assumed Atlanta's offense might crumble when Pro Bowl running back **William Andrews** was crumbled for the season with a knee injury. Many people were wrong. Third-year running back **Gerald Riggs**, making his first NFL start, rushed for a club-record 202 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Falcons to a 36-28 victory against New Orleans. **Mark Gastineau's** provocative dancing may be a thing of the past, but Gastineau, who led the NFL with 19 quarterback sacks in 1983, had four in the Jets' 23-14 win at Indianapolis, including one late in the game that caused a fumble and gave New York its final touchdown. Free safety **Gary Fencik** had two of Chicago's six interceptions in its 34-14 defeat of Tampa Bay. Two touchdown passes from quarterback **Steve Grogan** in the game's first eight minutes helped New England jump to a 21-0 lead at Buffalo, and the Patriots held on to win 21-17. A 55-yard punt return by **Dana McLemore** set up a big touchdown for San Francisco in the fourth quarter, and placekicker **Ray Wersching's** 22-yard field goal with four seconds left defeated the Lions 30-27 at the Silverdome.

march to beat the Bengals 20-17.

"I didn't know anything about Kubiak," Wyche admitted. "I'd never seen him on film."

The man Wyche replaced in Cincinnati, Forrest Gregg, began his term with the Green Bay Packers—his third NFL head coaching job—with a 24-23 victory over St. Louis. Wide receiver James Lofton starred with seven receptions for 134 yards.

The Packers were one of only four home teams to win in Week One. The other three were: Seattle; Chicago, a 34-14 winner against Tampa Bay; and the New York Giants, who squeezed by Philadelphia 28-27.

The Eagles' secondary was no mystery for quarterback Phil Simms. He passed for four touchdowns and 409 yards—the second-highest yardage total in Giants history.

The Colts had their regular season premiere in the Hoosier Dome, but the Jets spoiled it 23-14.

Second-year quarterback Todd Blackledge, a stand-in for injured Bill Kenney, helped Kansas City turn four Pittsburgh turnovers into scores as the Chiefs defeated the Steelers, who managed only 46 yards rushing, 37-27.

"Offensively, it was a disaster," said Steelers head coach Chuck Noll. "That's the easiest way to put it. We couldn't even do the very, very basic things. It's a sad moment."

There was a dearth of joy, too, at Anaheim Stadium on Monday night. With Gary Hogeboom, Dallas's newly knighted number-one quarterback, shredding the Rams for a club-record 33 completions and 343 yards, the Cowboys won their opener for the nineteenth time in the past 20 years (and the eleventh of 11 on the road), 20-13.

Todd Blackledge, filling in for injured Chiefs quarterback Bill Kenney, efficiently directed Kansas City past Pittsburgh 37-27.

For openers, there's no place like the road

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	1	0	0	Dallas	1	0	0	Denver 20, Cincinnati 17
New England	1	0	0	N.Y. Giants	1	0	0	Kansas City 37, Pittsburgh 27
N.Y. Jets	1	0	0	Philadelphia	0	1	0	L.A. Raiders 24, Houston 14
Buffalo	0	1	0	St. Louis	0	1	0	New England 21, Buffalo 17
Indianapolis	0	1	0	Washington	0	1	0	N.Y. Jets 23, Indianapolis 14
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				Seattle 33, Cleveland 0
Cincinnati	0	1	0	Chicago	1	0	0	**NFC**
Cleveland	0	1	0	Green Bay	1	0	0	Atlanta 36, New Orleans 28
Houston	0	1	0	Detroit	0	1	0	Chicago 34, Tampa Bay 14
Pittsburgh	0	1	0	Minnesota	0	1	0	Dallas 20, L.A. Rams 13
AFC West				Tampa Bay	0	1	0	Green Bay 24, St. Louis 23
Denver	1	0	0	**NFC West**				N.Y. Giants 28, Philadelphia 27
Kansas City	1	0	0	Atlanta	1	0	0	San Francisco 30, Detroit 27
L.A. Raiders	1	0	0	San Francisco	1	0	0	**Interconference**
San Diego	1	0	0	L.A. Rams	0	1	0	Miami 35, Washington 17
Seattle	1	0	0	New Orleans	0	1	0	San Diego 42, Minnesota 13

SEPT. 6

WEEK TWO

Life as an NFL quarterback isn't always a magic carpet ride, and at Giants Stadium this week—just six days after his stirring debut as Dallas's new starting quarterback—Gary Hogeboom had the rug rudely pulled from beneath him.

Washington gets scalped again, the Giants lower the boom, and the Patriots' Orange Bowl purgatory continues.

Demon blitzing by the Giants' human wrecking ball, linebacker Lawrence Taylor, twice caused fumbles by Hogeboom, one of which was returned 81 yards for a touchdown by linebacker Andy Headen. Hogeboom was sacked five times in all, and also threw an interception that led to the Giants' second touchdown in their 28-7 victory.

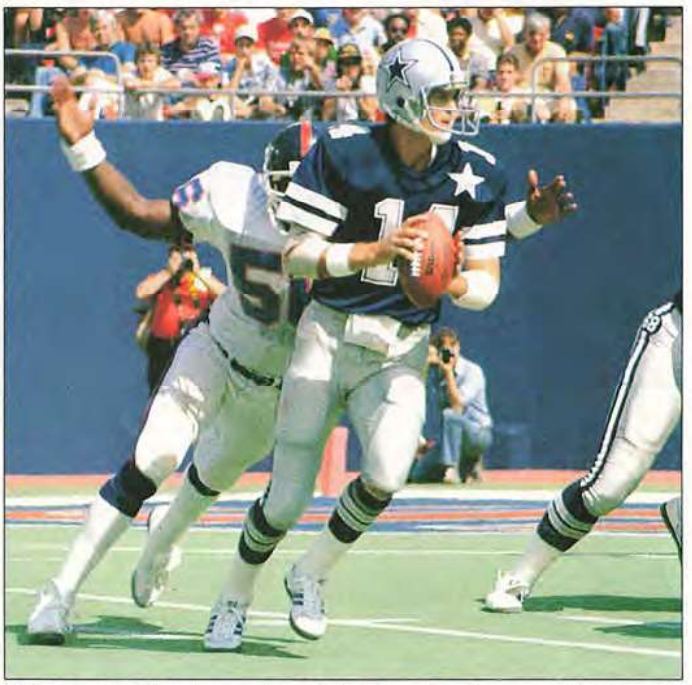
Was this an upset? Only time will tell. But in this game, the biggest "upset" may have been in Dallas head coach Tom Landry's stomach—and from Taylor there was no relief (spell it any way you like) in sight.

"I didn't realize where he [Taylor] had come from on his first sack," Landry said, "so we didn't make an adjustment. It wasn't until the second time, with the same exact play, that we discovered we better get someone to block him."

By that time it was 21-0, and the Giants were on their way to their first 2-0 start since 1968.

A critical fumble helped spoil the New York Jets' first home game at Giants Stadium three nights earlier. Pittsburgh linebacker Robin Cole pounced on a loose ball on the New York 13 after Jets quarterback Pat Ryan had botched an exchange with Freeman McNeil. The Steelers then capitalized with a three-yard touchdown pass from Da-

"I guess it don't matter how you win as long as you win," said Bum Phillips, after his Saints rallied to beat Tampa Bay in the final two minutes. "It's really good for a team to learn to come back in the last two minutes. It's not good for old men's hearts, but it's good to learn."



Dallas's Gary Hogeboom, about to be zapped by Lawrence Taylor, epitomizes the forgettable outing the Cowboys had against the Giants.

WEEK TWO

vid Woodley to rookie wide receiver Weegie Thompson. That gave Pittsburgh a 20-14 lead in an eventual 23-17 victory.

When Minnesota, leading 17-12, stopped Philadelphia running back Wilbert Montgomery on fourth-and-goal at the Vikings' 1-yard line with seven seconds left, the Eagles certainly seemed a beaten team.

"I already was walking off the field dejected," said Philadelphia quarterback Ron Jaworski. "I was heading for the bench thinking we were 0-2. Then I heard about the flag."

The flag turned out to be a face-mask penalty against the Vikings while they were tackling Montgomery, and, with new life, Jaworski then lofted a touchdown pass to tight end John Spagnola to give the Eagles a 19-17 victory.

New England's annual torment in the Orange Bowl ended the usual frustrating way—with a 28-7 Dolphins victory. It was the seventeenth consecutive loss by the Patriots in Miami.

"You hate to come in here and lose," said Patriots quarterback Steve Grogan, who threw four interceptions. "But we are in good company. A lot of people come down here and do the same thing, but we're just more consistent at it than anyone else."

Seattle fell behind 10-0 in its AFC West confrontation with San Diego, but the Chargers committed eight turnovers and lost 31-17.

"I think we have people concerned about us taking the ball away from them," said Seattle cornerback Keith Simpson. "We're putting ideas in people's heads—ideas they'd rather not think about."

Newly acquired running back Franco Harris aided the Seahawks with 46 yards rushing on 14 carries.

"I had butterflies," said Harris, after taking the field for the first time in a uniform that didn't belong to the Pittsburgh Steelers. "Maybe at my age I should call them moths."

With tight end Paul Coffman on the sidelines (knee injury) for the first time in 90 games, quarterback Lynn Dickey put out by a back injury on the sixth play of the game, and all-pro wide receiver James Lofton held without a reception for the first time in 67 NFL games, Green Bay was simply no match for the Raiders, who whipped the Packers 28-7. The score might have been worse except the Raiders, in the words of their Pro Bowl defensive end Howie Long, "have a history of playing *down* to the level of the opponent."

San Francisco played up to the level of its opponent on Monday night, the defending NFC champion Washington Redskins. After amassing a 27-3 halftime lead, the 49ers withstood a second-half comeback by Washington for a 37-31 victory.

Quarterback Joe Montana passed for 381 yards (the second-highest total in 49ers history) and a pair of touchdowns, and scored on a seven-yard run early in the fourth quarter for the eventual winning points.

The winning points in New Orleans's 17-13 victory against Tampa Bay were scored by Hokie Gajan, who turned a seven-yard swing pass into a 51-yard gain late in the fourth quarter. Two plays later (with 1:53 left), Gajan rushed for an eight-yard touchdown to sink the Buccaneers.

Gajan's heroic counterpoint on the Saints' defense was Bruce Clark, who had 12 unassisted tackles and three sacks and, according to Saints head coach Bum Phillips, "...played the best game that I have ever seen played by a defensive lineman."

Miami's Mark Brown (51), Don McNeal (28), and Earnie Rhone (55) crunch Mosi Tatupu; the Dolphins crunched the Patriots 28-7.

NEWSMAKERS

Maas

Mitchell

Murray

Pagel

Bears' Payton closes in on THE record

Chicago running back **Walter Payton** rushed for 179 yards, including a 72-yard touchdown sprint, in Chicago's 27-0 victory against Denver. In the process, Payton also broke Jim Brown's career combined-yardage record of 15,459. **Eddie Murray's** 48-yard field goal 5:06 into overtime gave Detroit a 27-24 win at Atlanta. Rams cornerback **LeRoy Irvin** returned an interception 81 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter against Cleveland, and placekicker **Mike Lansford** beat the Browns on a 27-yard field goal with 1:25 left. A pair of 39-yard returns by **Stump Mitchell**—one on the game's opening kickoff and one on Buffalo's first punt—set up St. Louis's first two scores in a 37-7 runaway from the Bills. Mitchell also rushed 11 times for 62 yards and a touchdown. Quarterback **Mike Pagel** completed 15 of 20 passes for 215 yards and three touchdowns and ran for another score to lead the Colts past Houston 35-21. The inspired play of Kansas City nose tackle **Bill Maas**, a 1984 first-round draft pick, augmented the Chiefs' outside pass rush (including three sacks by end **Mike Bell**) in a 27-22 defeat of Cincinnati.

It's early, but some holes are being dug

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	2	0	0	N.Y. Giants	2	0	0	Indianapolis 35, Houston 21
Indianapolis	1	1	0	Dallas	1	1	0	Kansas City 27, Cincinnati 22
New England	1	1	0	Philadelphia	1	1	0	Miami 28, New England 7
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	St. Louis	1	1	0	Pittsburgh 23, N.Y. Jets 17
Buffalo	0	2	0	Washington	0	2	0	Seattle 31, San Diego 17
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	Chicago	2	0	0	Detroit 27, Atlanta 24 (OT)
Cincinnati	0	2	0	Detroit	1	1	0	New Orleans 17, Tampa Bay 13
Cleveland	0	2	0	Green Bay	1	1	0	N.Y. Giants 28, Dallas 7
Houston	0	2	0	Minnesota	0	2	0	Philadelphia 19, Minnesota 17
AFC West				Tampa Bay	0	2	0	San Francisco 37, Washington 31
Kansas City	2	0	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
L.A. Raiders	2	0	0	San Francisco	2	0	0	Chicago 27, Denver 0
Seattle	2	0	0	Atlanta	1	1	0	L.A. Raiders 28, Green Bay 7
Denver	1	1	0	L.A. Rams	1	1	0	L.A. Rams 20, Cleveland 17
San Diego	1	1	0	New Orleans	1	1	0	St. Louis 37, Buffalo 7

Hokie Gajan's big fourth-quarter plays gave the Saints a victory.

Walter Payton ran wild (179 yards); Chicago blanked Denver.

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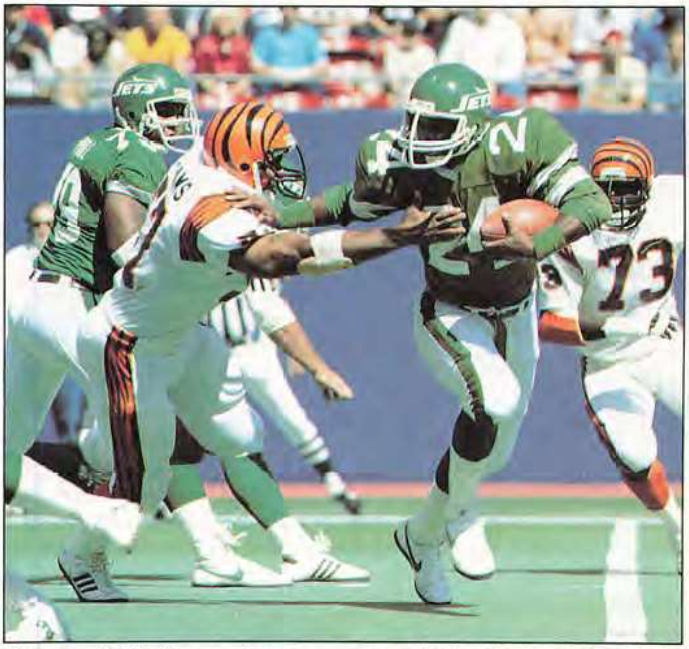
SEPT. 16

WEEK THREE

The Comeback of the Week — and the season so far — took place at Sullivan Stadium. It began with New England rookie Irving Fryar's 55-yard punt return to the Seattle 44-yard line with just over two minutes left in the first half. The Seahawks were leading 23-0 at the time, and Patriots head coach Ron Meyer had replaced ineffective starting quarterback Steve Grogan with Tony Eason.



Freeman McNeil's regular-season career high of 150 yards rushing kept Cincinnati at arm's length; the Jets defeated the Bengals 43-23.

New England and St. Louis display pluck, Minnesota and Dallas use illusions, and the Bears rough up the Packers.

As the Patriots huddled, their all-pro guard, John Hannah, read the riot act to his teammates on the field. "I can't remember what he said," Eason said. "All I can remember was his face. It was beet red."

On the initial play of the series, Eason completed a 12-yard pass to tight end Derrick Ramsey — for the Patriots' first completion *and* first first down of the game — and then he scrambled for a 25-yard touchdown.

"When we scored just before the half," said running back Tony Collins, who rushed for 107 yards, "we knew we could come back."

Collins was right; the second half was all Patriots. They scored 31 unanswered points and defeated the Seahawks 38-23.

Another harrowing comeback occurred at the Hoosier Dome, where St. Louis quarterback Neil Lomax threw two fourth-quarter touchdown passes to Roy Green to help lead the Cardinals to a 34-33 victory against the Colts. The second Lomax-to-Green scoring hook-up came with 3:28 left, when Green caught a short pass, broke loose from Colts cornerback Tate Randle near midfield, danced toward the sideline, and then streaked to the end zone.

"You'll have to ask my mother how I made that move," Green said. "What I did just came naturally."

"It was a tackle I should have made," Randle said. "Nine times out of ten I will make it. He was real wet with sweat. I just slid off him like a greased pig."

Green's touchdown and the point-after by Neil O'Donoghue cut the Cardinals' deficit to 33-31; O'Donoghue then won it with a 46-yard field goal with seven seconds left in the game.

Points were harder to come by at Lambeau Field, where Chicago edged Green Bay 9-7 on three field goals to remain undefeated. The Packers managed only 154 yards against the Bears' steel claw defense, ranked first in the NFL against both the rush and the pass.

"Our defense played exceptional today," said Bears head coach Mike Ditka. "I was like a proud father."

"Anytime we win in Green Bay it's like winning the Super Bowl," said Bears defensive end Dan Hampton. "Maybe it wasn't the prettiest win, but we'll take them any way we can get them."

It may not have been a "pretty" game in Cleveland, either, where Denver kept the Browns winless with a 24-14 victory on Sunday night. But Broncos head coach Dan Reeves preferred it to at least one of the alternatives.

"What do they call it, winning ugly?" asked Reeves, whose team had nearly as many punts (six) as first downs (seven) in the second half, during which the only scoring came on an interception for a touchdown by rookie Randy Robbins in the final minute of play. "That was definitely winning ugly. That's okay though. It beats what happened last week [a 27-0 loss to Chicago]."

Tight end Kellen Winslow returned from a one-week "retirement" with a new five-year contract. Despite being an unfamiliar target of boos from Chargers fans at San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium, he caught 10 passes for 146 yards as San Diego defeated Houston 31-14, giving head coach Don Coryell his one-hundredth NFL coaching victory.

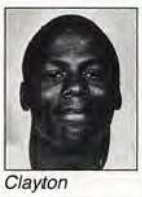
Howie Long enjoys Chris Bahr's game-winning field goal at K.C.

Things were lively at the Metrodome, where Minnesota rookie head coach Les Steckel again reached into his bag of tricks to register his first NFL coaching victory.

Rookie running back Alfred Anderson, who one week earlier against the Eagles had completed a 20-yard scoring pass to quarterback Tommy Kramer, this week uncorked a 43-yard third-quarter touchdown pass to rook-

NEWSMAKERS

Cavanaugh



Clayton

Dean

Erenberg

Marv Hubbard and Mark van Eeghen revisited?

"If you asked me a couple months ago if I'd be on the Pittsburgh Steelers, I'd have said you were crazy," said running back **Rich Erenberg**, the ninth-round draft choice from Colgate, after leading all rushers with 83 yards in a 24-14 victory against the Rams. Cornerback **Vernon Dean** intercepted three passes and returned one 36 yards for a touchdown as the Redskins brought the Giants back to earth with a 30-14 win. Jets placekicker **Pat Leahy's** career-high five field goals, and **Jan Stenerud's** Minnesota-record 54-yard field goal helped their teams to victories. Quarterback **Steve DeBerg** came off the bench and passed for 195 yards and two touchdowns to lead Tampa Bay past Detroit 21-17. Another reliever who delivered in the clutch was **Matt Cavanaugh**, who replaced Joe Montana (injured ribs) in the third quarter, and rallied the 49ers to a 30-20 victory against New Orleans. Miami's own trio of Smurfs — 5-foot 9-inch wide receivers **Mark Clayton, Mark Duper,** and **Nat Moore** — each caught a scoring pass from **Dan Marino** to account for all three Dolphins touchdowns in a 21-17 victory at Buffalo.

WEEK THREE

ie wide receiver Dwight Collins for the decisive points in a 27-20 win against Atlanta.

There was more subterfuge in Dallas. A 49-yard flea-flicker touchdown pass from Mike Renfro to fellow wide receiver Doug Donley late in the third quarter provided the winning points in the Cowboys' 23-17 victory against the Eagles. Philadelphia managed only 56 yards rushing.

The undefeated Raiders continued to do what they do best—win—at Kansas City, despite quarterback Jim Plunkett's four interceptions. The Raiders also were tagged for 132 yards on 12 penalties.

Trailing 20-19 late in the fourth quarter, Plunkett drove the Raiders 73 yards to the Kansas City 1-yard line, then stood aside as Chris Bahr kicked a 19-yard field goal to give Los Angeles a 22-20 victory.

"When you intercept someone like him [Plunkett] four times it's hard to imagine you'll get beat," said Chiefs defensive end Mike Bell. "But you have to play the Raiders for the whole sixty minutes."

It was a different story for quarterback Ken Anderson and the Bengals, who lost their third consecutive game. Anderson also threw four interceptions in a 43-23 loss to the Jets, who received 150 yards rushing from Freeman McNeil and quarterback Pat Ryan's finest pro performance (20 of 33 for 251 yards and no interceptions).

"Close games become blowouts when you throw four interceptions," Anderson said. "I've thrown four before. I'm sure it won't be the last time. But if you throw four, it's not going to be a great day for you."

"There are no words in *Webster's Dictionary* to help us now," said Bengals wide receiver Cris Collinsworth.

Bears, Steelers, 49ers: two-game cushions

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**				**AFC**
Miami	3	0	0	Dallas	2	1	0	Denver 24, Cleveland 14
New England	2	1	0	N.Y. Giants	2	1	0	L.A. Raiders 22, Kansas City 20
N.Y. Jets	2	1	0	St. Louis	2	1	0	Miami 21, Buffalo 17
Indianapolis	1	2	0	Philadelphia	1	2	0	New England 38, Seattle 23
Buffalo	0	3	0	Washington	1	2	0	N.Y. Jets 43, Cincinnati 23
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				San Diego 31, Houston 14
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	Chicago	3	0	0	**NFC**
Cincinnati	0	3	0	Detroit	1	2	0	Chicago 9, Green Bay 7
Cleveland	0	3	0	Green Bay	1	2	0	Dallas 23, Philadelphia 17
Houston	0	3	0	Minnesota	1	2	0	Minnesota 27, Atlanta 20
AFC West				Tampa Bay	1	2	0	San Francisco 30, New Orleans 20
L.A. Raiders	3	0	0	**NFC West**				Tampa Bay 21, Detroit 17
Denver	2	1	0	San Francisco	3	0	0	Washington 30, N.Y. Giants 14
Kansas City	2	1	0	Atlanta	1	2	0	**Interconference**
San Diego	2	1	0	L.A. Rams	1	2	0	Pittsburgh 24, L.A. Rams 14
Seattle	2	1	0	New Orleans	1	2	0	St. Louis 34, Indianapolis 33

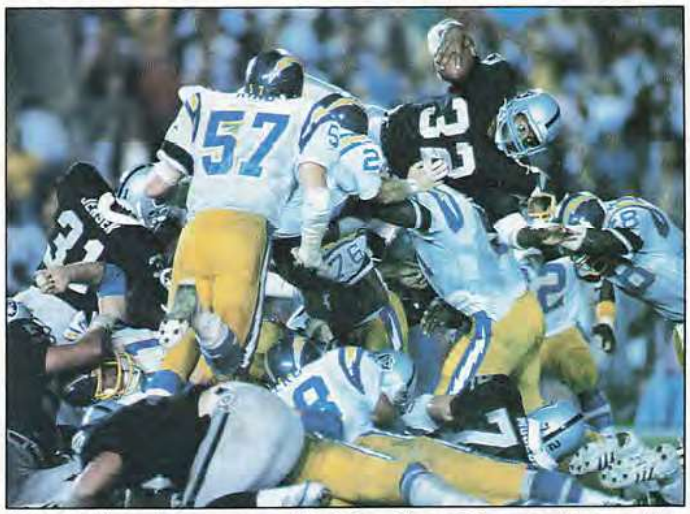
Roland James's safety blitz didn't unsettle quarterback Dave Krieg, but the Patriots' second-half scoring blitz wiped out the Seahawks 38-23.

SEPT. 23

WEEK FOUR

Is there a fate worse than leading the Los Angeles Raiders by less than a touchdown with less than a minute to play on "Monday Night Football?"

It has always been *de rigueur* for the Raiders to pull off last-minute victories (remember "Heidi" in 1968?). "Just part of the Raiders tradition," says quarterback Jim Plunkett.



After scaling a human pyramid of San Diego Chargers, Marcus Allen hurdles into the end zone for his fourth (and game-winning) touchdown.

And Monday night? You know about the Raiders on Monday night...20-2-1 going into 1984. Now add more tradition and make that record 21-2-1.

This time they defeated San Diego 33-30 when running back Marcus Allen scored his fourth touchdown of the game on a one-yard flying dive worthy of Greg Louganis with 56 seconds left.

The Chargers, led by second-year running back Earnest Jackson's 155 yards rushing, had fought back from a 20-10 third-quarter deficit to take a 30-20 lead with just more than 10 minutes to play in the game.

But Plunkett (24 of 33 for 363 yards passing and one touchdown—to Allen) coolly directed two fourth-quarter touchdown drives of 53 and 76 yards to keep the Raiders unbeaten.

Seattle and Denver remained one game behind Los Angeles by defeating Chicago and Kansas City, respectively.

The Seahawks-Bears game featured the two contenders for Jim Brown's career NFL rushing record, Franco Harris and Walter Payton. Payton won the individual battle, zooming past Harris in the fast lane by rushing for 116 yards (to Harris's 23). But Seattle, with three interceptions, three fumbles, and a blocked punt, won where it matters—on the scoreboard—38-9.

Denver's Sammy Winder had an even bigger rushing day than Payton, with 139 yards and a touchdown on 31 carries. The Broncos didn't waste his effort; they shut out the Chiefs 21-0.

The Redskins find their stride (No. 44), Don Shula imports a new edge, and the Chargers suffer through a familiar ritual.

Quarterbacks, including two understudies, were the story in the NFC West, which had a perfect 4-0 week.

Jeff Kemp, the fourth-year free agent from Dartmouth with the well-known Congressional father, started his first NFL game in place of Vince Ferragamo (broken finger) and was a big factor in the Rams' 24-14 victory at Cincinnati. Kemp completed 13 of 23 passes for 206 yards, no interceptions, and a 52-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Ron Brown.

"Jeff Kemp played an absolutely great game," Rams head coach John Robinson gushed. "He was efficient. He did what

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WEEK FOUR

we asked him to do. He threw the ball deep and threw the ball short. He didn't really make any mistake that I know of."

With Joe Montana nursing a severely bruised sternum, backup Matt Cavanaugh threw three touchdown passes to lead the 49ers to a 21-9 victory at Philadelphia. The Eagles might have had a victory if they hadn't dropped 10 passes.

Three of Atlanta quarterback Steve Bartkowski's 13 passes (and 11 completions) were caught for touchdowns, as the Falcons skewered Houston 42-10.

"We may qualify for the Lady Byng Trophy," said Houston defensive coordinator Jerry Glanville. "You know what the Lady Byng is? It's what they give in hockey to the most polite player in the NHL."

And in New Orleans, Richard Todd rebounded from his benching the previous week with a creditable performance that included a 30-yard touchdown pass to Wayne Wilson as the Saints topped St. Louis 34-24.

Dallas's defense dominated Green Bay, which managed just 204 yards in a 20-6 loss to the Cowboys. Cornerback Everson Walls intercepted two passes and safety Michael Downs recorded a pair of quarterback traps and blocked an extra point.

Miami head coach Don Shula, whose autobiography is entitled *The Winning Edge*, picked up a 270-pound edge to bolster the Dolphins' running game: former Cincinnati and (briefly) San Diego assault back Pete Johnson, who arrived in Miami at 10:00 P.M. on Saturday night. Johnson paid a quick dividend; he scored Miami's first touchdown in a 44-7 rout of Indianapolis.

"We gave him a crash course on short-yardage and goal-line situations by holding a walk-through this morning," Shula said. "It's amazing how quickly he picked things up."

Buffalo's secondary couldn't pick up wide receiver Wesley Walker, who caught three touchdown passes from quarterback Pat Ryan to lead the Jets to a 28-26 victory over the winless Bills.

"I was coming off the line slow," Walker said, "then I would just blow by them."

Linebacker Lawrence Taylor repeatedly blew into the Tampa Bay backfield. With six unassisted tackles and four sacks of Buccaneers quarterback Steve DeBerg (including one in which he stripped the ball from DeBerg to set up New York's first touchdown), he was the major force in the Giants' 17-14 victory.

"Sometimes they wouldn't put a blocker on me, and that's ridiculous," Taylor said. "I was so wide open, I thought they were trying to trick me. Then I thought they just didn't see me. I must be invisible."

"He's such a dominating force," said teammate Harry Carson. "I'm glad I play with him and not against him."

Dominating also applies to John Riggins—a good back with a bad back. Riggins shrugged off recurring lower back pain to rush for 140 yards and his one hundredth career touchdown. Teammate Mark Moseley kicked four field goals and two extra points to move past the Patriots' Gino Cappelletti on the all-time NFL scoring list, as the Redskins moved past New England 26-10.

> **"We're existing from day to day, from practice to practice, from game to game," said head coach Bill Walsh on his unhealthy but unbeaten 49ers. "We have to play at our best every week. At some point we're going to have to put our best team on the field."**

"They whipped us," said Patriots cornerback Raymond Clayborn. "They overpowered us on first down and wore us down. We can't say we didn't do this and we didn't do that. Let's be honest. Washington dictated what they wanted to do. I was a little shell-shocked."

Cleveland scored its first victory of the season, 20-10 against Pittsburgh. Quarterback Paul McDonald passed for 293 yards and two touchdowns to at least temporarily silence the boos at Cleveland Stadium.

NEWSMAKERS

Blackwood

Danielson

Stenerud

White

Les, it wasn't really that hard to fathom

"Nobody could understand why I'd be interested in a forty-one-year-old placekicker," said Minnesota head coach Les Steckel, after **Jan Stenerud** had kicked five field goals to help the Vikings defeat Detroit 29-28. "Maybe people will see why I traded for him now." Stenerud's big day and Minnesota's victory offset an impressive performance by Lions quarterback **Gary Danielson**, who completed 24 of 30 passes without an interception for 218 yards and four touchdowns—three to wide receiver **Leonard Thompson**. Dallas defensive tackle **Randy White** was in on 10 tackles, including two quarterback sacks, as the Cowboys limited Green Bay to an average of 1.8 yards per pass play in their 20-6 victory. Seattle nose tackle **Joe Nash**, who recovered a fumble in the Bears' end zone and had five unassisted tackles, also was instrumental in his team's 38-9 victory. Miami's **Reggie Roby** wasn't called on often, but he averaged 53 yards on three punts, including a career-best 66-yarder in the Dolphins' rout of Indianapolis. Safety **Glenn Blackwood** intercepted a pass and recovered a fumble to stop two Colts scoring threats in the game.

John Riggins and the Redskins bowled over the Patriots 26-10.

Cornerback Everson Walls steals the ball from Packers wide receiver Phillip Epps, for one of his two interceptions; Dallas won 20-6.

The NFC West delivers a perfect weekend

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	4	0	0	Dallas	3	1	0	Cleveland 20, Pittsburgh 10
N.Y. Jets	3	1	0	N.Y. Giants	3	1	0	Denver 21, Kansas City 0
New England	2	2	0	St. Louis	2	2	0	L.A. Raiders 33, San Diego 30
Indianapolis	1	3	0	Washington	2	2	0	Miami 44, Indianapolis 7
Buffalo	0	4	0	Philadelphia	1	3	0	N.Y. Jets 28, Buffalo 26
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	2	2	0	Chicago	3	1	0	Dallas 20, Green Bay 6
Cleveland	1	3	0	Minnesota	2	2	0	Minnesota 29, Detroit 28
Cincinnati	0	4	0	Detroit	1	3	0	New Orleans 34, St. Louis 24
Houston	0	4	0	Green Bay	1	3	0	N.Y. Giants 17, Tampa Bay 14
AFC West				Tampa Bay	1	3	0	San Francisco 21, Philadelphia 9
L.A. Raiders	4	0	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
Denver	3	1	0	San Francisco	4	0	0	Atlanta 42, Houston 10
Seattle	3	1	0	Atlanta	2	2	0	L.A. Rams 24, Cincinnati 14
Kansas City	2	2	0	L.A. Rams	2	2	0	Seattle 38, Chicago 9
San Diego	2	2	0	New Orleans	2	2	0	Washington 26, New England 10

SEPT. 30

WEEK FIVE

September was a sweet song for the San Francisco 49ers and the Miami Dolphins, ending on a high note for both teams.

On the month's final weekend, San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana, outfitted with a flak jacket to protect bruised ribs, threw two second-quarter touchdown passes against Atlanta. The 49ers, themselves outfitted with a compensatory game plan to countervail a hobbled secondary, defeated Atlanta 14-5.

Holding their opponent without a touchdown for the second consecutive week, the 49ers deployed a 3-3-5 Nickel defense customized to stop the *run*—specifically NFL rushing leader Gerald Riggs.

Despite 144 yards rushing by Greg Bell, Buffalo lost again.

Riggs still gained 136 yards, and Atlanta amassed 418 total yards. But with three goal-line stands, and as recipients of three turnovers, the 49ers barred the NFC's top-scoring team from the end zone.

"We played on nerve, poise, and pride," said 49ers head coach Bill Walsh.

Miami also faced a team with a bandaged secondary; St. Louis was missing three injured cornerbacks. But the Cardinals didn't exactly receive Red Cross treatment from the Dolphins, who instead attacked like sharks scenting blood.

The "treatment" the Cardinals received was another passing frenzy by quarterback Dan Marino (24 of 36 for a club-record 429 yards and three touchdowns), and wide receivers Mark Duper (eight catches for 164 yards) and Mark Clayton (five for 143 and one touchdown).

"He [Marino] has been sharp since he got here," said Dolphins head coach Don Shula after Miami's fifth consecutive victory, 36-28. "It's hard to differentiate between sharp, sharper, and sharpest."

The clock finally struck midnight for the Raiders, who proved mortal with a 16-13 loss at Denver that created a three-way tie for first in the AFC West between those two and Seattle, a 20-12 victor at Minnesota.

With Denver owning the ball (on its own 15) and a 16-13 lead with 4:34 left to play, the Raiders collapsed into *their* 3-3-5 defense, dubbed the "Orange Special." The alignment had worked earlier, three times forcing Denver to settle for Rich Karlis field goals after having first downs inside the Los Angeles 10.

But Denver hadn't planned on *passing* out the clock; with Gerald Willhite rushing nine times for 36 yards and three first downs on the drive, the Broncos were able to kill the remaining time.

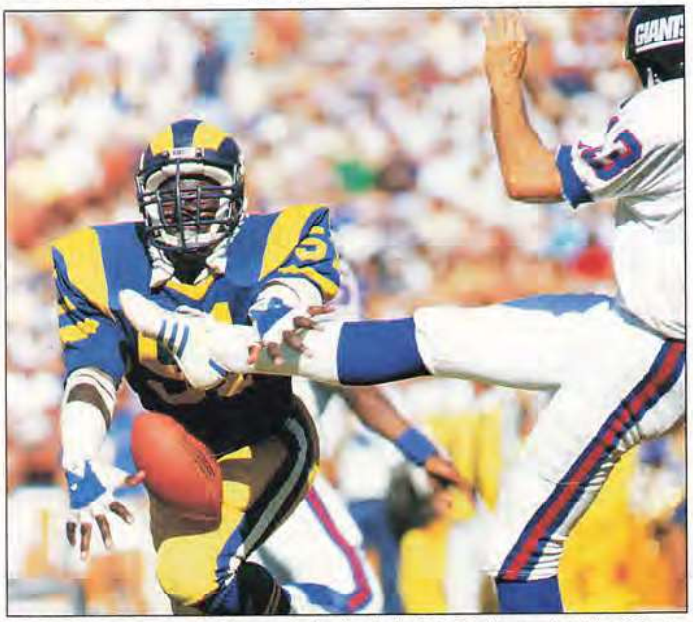
"They did a good job with it [the Orange Special] down near the goal line," said Denver quarterback John Elway, "but I was surprised when I saw them go to it late in the game. It's not a good run defense."

Elway, whose pinpoint passes kept the Raiders off balance, drew raves from all-pro cornerback Lester Hayes.

"I never have seen a quarterback throw that way before," Hayes said. "Mike [Haynes] and I were all over Steve Watson and Butch Johnson, and he did a superb job of getting the ball in there. He's like a Goose Gossage, throwing fastballs at ninety-five miles per hour."

The New York Giants' running game (eight yards on 13 carries) was not quite so swift against the Rams, who also blocked two punts by Dave Jennings (both for safeties), sacked quarterback Phil Simms five times (once for a safety, giving the Rams an NFL record of three in the game), and defeated the Giants 33-12.

"One time when we had him [Simms] pinned inside the twenty," said Rams defensive end Jack Youngblood, "Phil came to the line and started counting us. I heard him say, 'Nine, ten,' and suddenly he stopped. I think he expected to count to thirteen or fourteen. He just wanted to make sure."



The Rams got one of three safeties in their 33-12 win against the Giants when Norwood Vann blocked a punt by Dave Jennings.

The Los Angeles Rams show they are safety conscious, the 49ers show another way to win, and Miami shows no mercy.

Simms may have thought he had it rough, but he probably wouldn't have wanted to trade places with Cleveland's Paul McDonald, who was sacked 11 times (three by linebacker Ken McAlister, who also had an interception) in the Browns' 10-6 loss to Kansas City.

Though Walter Payton rushed for 125 yards on 20 carries in the first half against Dallas, Chicago coach Mike Ditka, with his Bears trailing 17-14, decided to throw

NEWSMAKERS

Eason

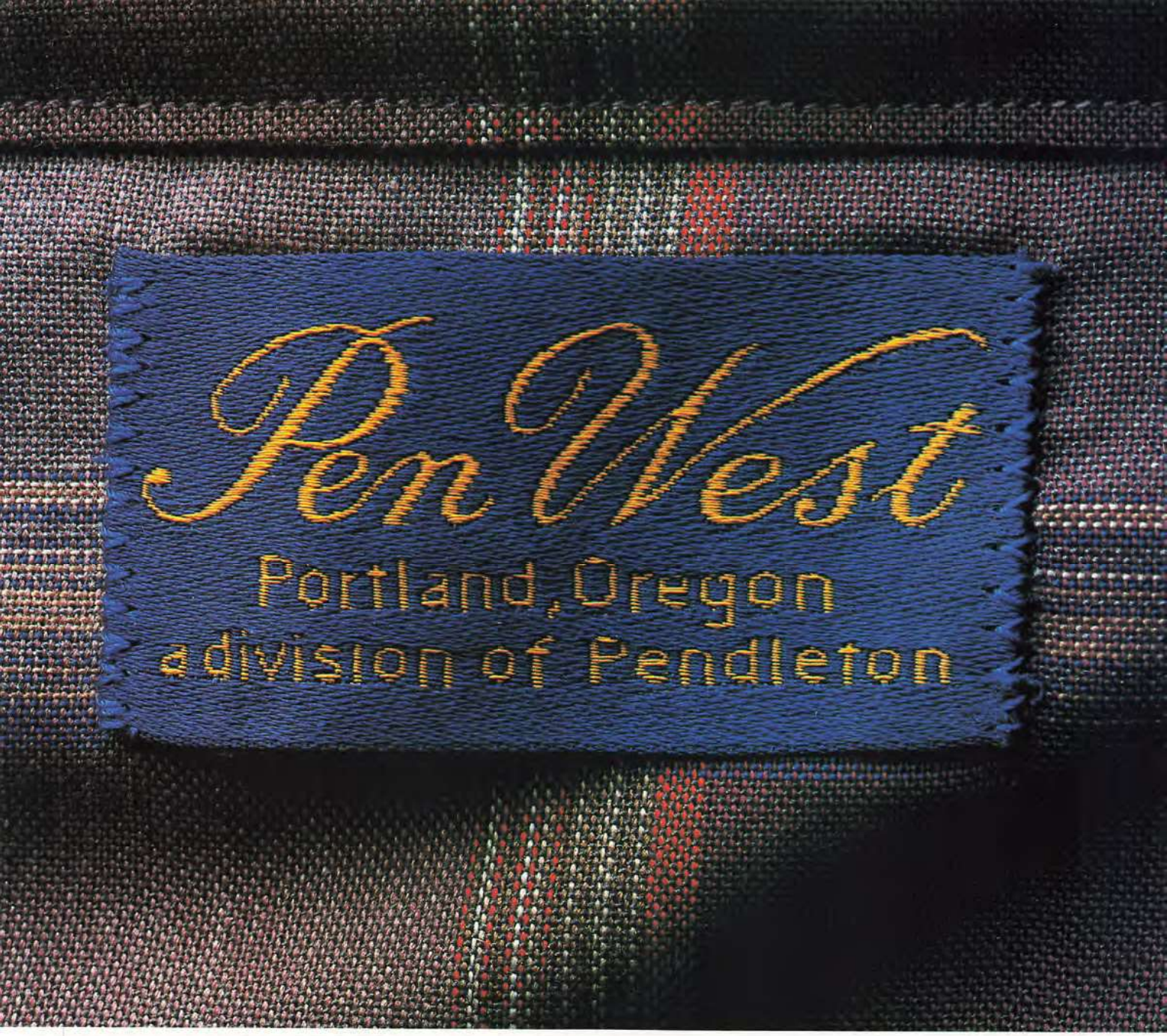
James

Lane

Shell

Gear shift: special teams to the fast Lane

After three seasons on special teams, **Eric Lane** stepped into the void created by the injury to Curt Warner and rushed for 113 yards and a touchdown to help the Seahawks beat Minnesota 20-12. Chargers rookie **Lionel James**, the NFL's smallest (5-6, 170) running back, rushed 10 times for 58 yards in a 27-24 victory against Detroit. "I may have lost a couple of more inches today the way they were pounding my head," James said. Quarterback **Tony Eason** accounted for all four of New England's touchdowns in its 28-21 win over the Jets. Eason (28 of 42 for 354 yards) threw three touchdown passes and scored on a four-yard run. Bills rookie **Greg Bell** rushed for 144 yards, but Indianapolis, with **Randy McMillan** netting 114 yards and two touchdowns rushing, won 31-17. Cornerback **Dwayne Woodruff** and safety **Donnie Shell** each intercepted two passes as Pittsburgh beat Cincinnati 38-17. Safety **Frank Wattelet's** 35-yard touchdown return of an interception helped the Saints beat Houston 27-10. Redskins defensive end **Dexter Manley** had two-and-one-half sacks as Washington shut out Philadelphia 20-0.



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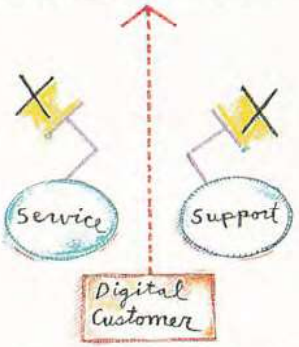

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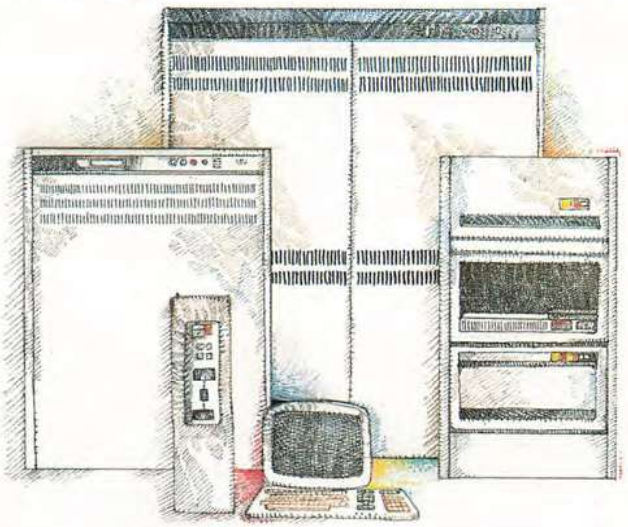

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WEEK FIVE

a change-up in the third quarter by going to his passing game.

It didn't work. Bears quarterback Jim McMahon, who was throwing flutterballs, screwballs, and wounded ducks all afternoon because of an injured hand, couldn't finish the game. Payton only carried five times for 25 yards in the second half (disappearing as a factor), and the Cowboys won 23-14.

"We felt we had to change the pace and try to move the ball via the pass," Ditka explained. "We were outcoached."

At Tampa Stadium, the Packers were outkicked, as Obed Ariri connected on field goals of 46, 49, and 48 yards, the last one coming with 4:22 left in overtime to give Tampa Bay a 30-27 victory.

Led by 172 yards rushing on an NFL record-tying 43 carries by James Wilder, the Buccaneers led 27-20 with just under two minutes to play. Green Bay forced overtime when, with 21 seconds but no timeouts left, wide receiver James Lofton caught a pass at the Buccaneers' 12. About to be tackled, he lateraled to Gerry Ellis, who ran it in from the 15 for a touchdown.

"The vision I had," said veteran Tampa Bay safety Beasley Reece, who was fooled on the play, "was of me on a plane to Waco, Texas, without a job. I put in an emergency call to God to pull me out of this one."

Ariri must have been listening in on a party line.

"Seattle has one of the best defenses I've seen in a long time," said Minnesota head coach Les Steckel, after his Vikings lost to the Seahawks 20-12. "They blitz very well and they're very well synchronized. I've never seen them make a mental mistake on anything they do on defense, and they do a lot."

Miami tight end Joe Rose beats St. Louis safety Lee Nelson to the ball and the end zone; the Dolphins beat the Cardinals 36-28.

Rest of AFC West climb as Raiders lose

STANDINGS

AFC East	W	L	T	NFC East	W	L	T
Miami	5	0	0	Dallas	4	1	0
New England	3	2	0	N.Y. Giants	3	2	0
N.Y. Jets	3	2	0	Washington	3	2	0
Indianapolis	2	3	0	St. Louis	2	3	0
Buffalo	0	5	0	Philadelphia	1	4	0
AFC Central				**NFC Central**			
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	Chicago	3	2	0
Cleveland	1	4	0	Minnesota	2	3	0
Cincinnati	0	5	0	Tampa Bay	2	3	0
Houston	0	5	0	Detroit	1	4	0
AFC West				Green Bay	1	4	0
Denver	4	1	0	**NFC West**			
L.A. Raiders	4	1	0	San Francisco	5	0	0
Seattle	4	1	0	L.A. Rams	3	2	0
Kansas City	3	2	0	New Orleans	3	2	0
San Diego	3	2	0	Atlanta	2	3	0

SCORES

AFC

Denver 16, L.A. Raiders 13
Indianapolis 31, Buffalo 17
Kansas City 10, Cleveland 6
New England 28, N.Y. Jets 21
Pittsburgh 38, Cincinnati 17

NFC

Dallas 23, Chicago 14
L.A. Rams 33, N.Y. Giants 12
San Francisco 14, Atlanta 5
Tampa Bay 30, Green Bay 27 (OT)
Washington 20, Philadelphia 0

Interconference

Miami 36, St. Louis 28
New Orleans 27, Houston 10
San Diego 27, Detroit 24
Seattle 20, Minnesota 12

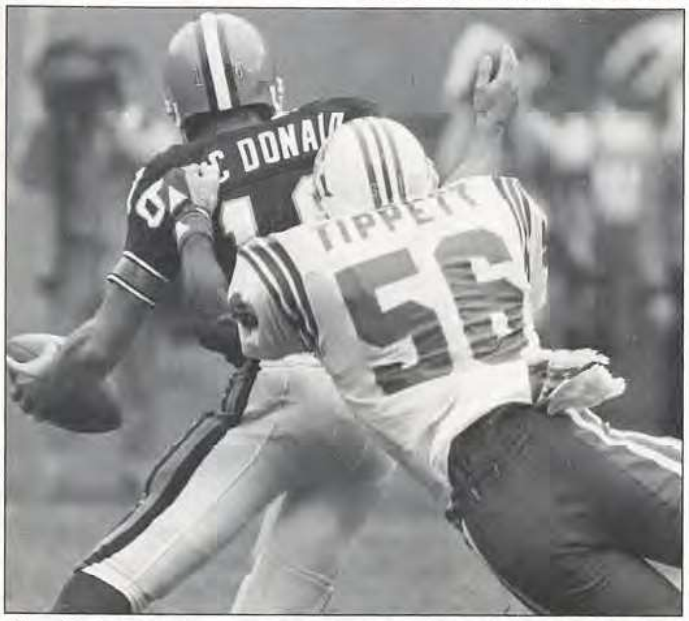
OCT. 7

WEEK SIX

In many ways it was a very typical Walter Payton run. On the second play of the third quarter—his seventeenth carry in Chicago's 20-7 victory against New Orleans—Payton took a pitch from quarterback Jim McMahon, followed pulling guard Mark Bortz and fullback Matt Suhey around the left side, and shot forward for a six-yard gain.

considered by many to have the best shot at one day surpassing Payton, "is put the career record so far out there, that yours truly won't have a chance. You cannot overemphasize what he's done. . .you can't make too big a flap about it."

"I had my eleven-thousand mile tune-up in the offseason," said Payton, referring to arthroscopic knee surgery, "and I feel



New England linebacker Andre Tippett hurtles into Cleveland quarterback Paul McDonald for one of the Patriots' five sacks in their 17-16 win.

However, this was no ordinary six-yard pick-up. This put Payton *over the top*, eclipsing Jim Brown's near-mythic NFL record of 12,312 yards rushing in a career. Payton had begun the game just 67 yards shy of Brown, and finished with 154, thus breaking another of Brown's records: 58 career games of 100 or more yards rushing.

"Breaking Jim Brown's record is akin to Hank Aaron breaking Babe Ruth's home run record and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar breaking Wilt Chamberlain's point total," congratulated President Ronald Reagan from a phone aboard Air Force One, which was carrying him to Louisville for his first debate with Walter Mondale.

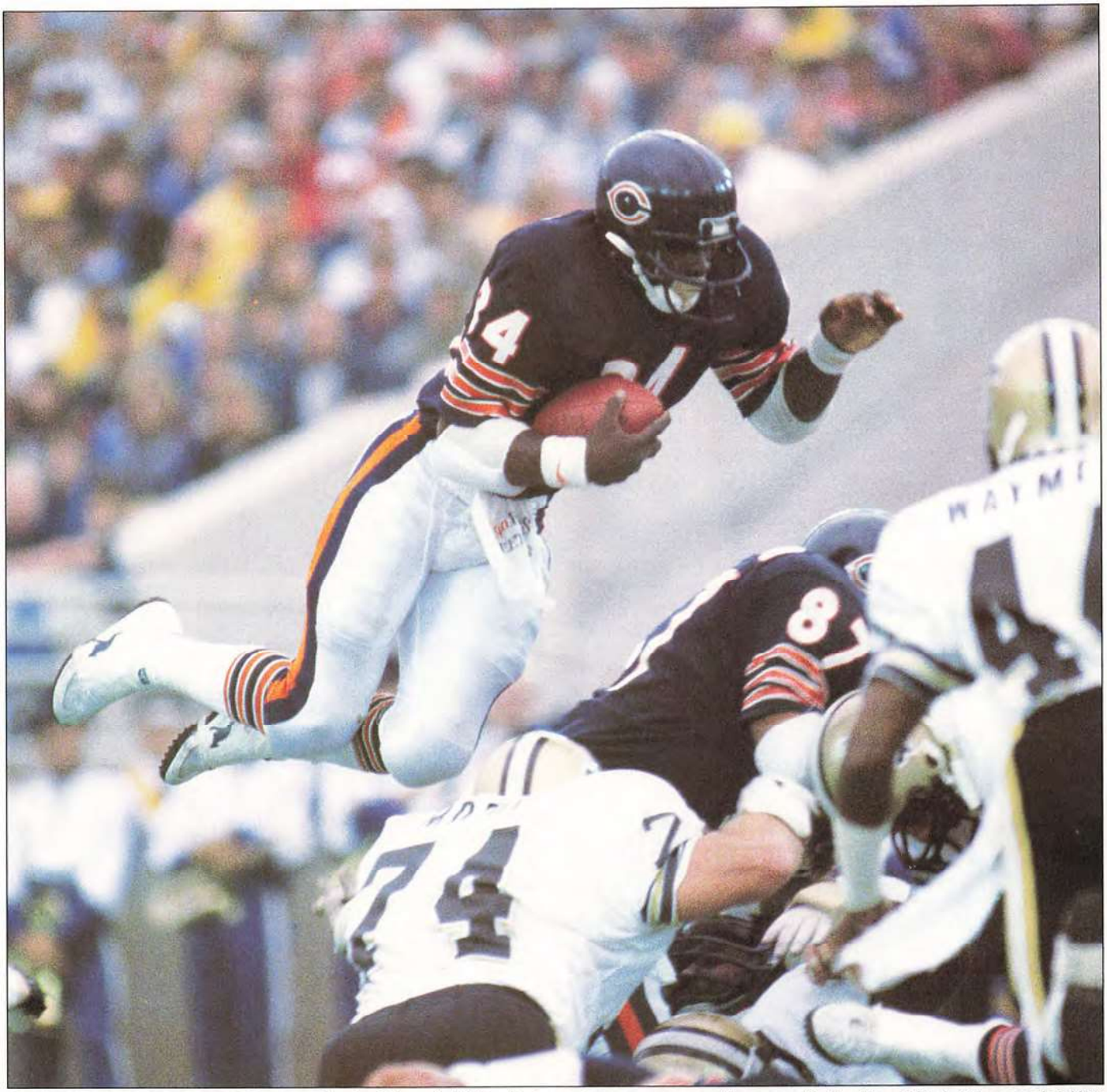
The only remaining question on everyone's mind seemed to be just how far Payton will stretch the record.

"What he's going to do," suggested Dallas's Tony Dorsett, great. The way you think is the way you are, and I think I'm twenty-three."

Payton keeps his appointment with destiny, Marino keeps the Dolphins rolling, and the Redskins keep Dallas company.

Miami's Dan Marino, a 23-year old player performing like a 10-year veteran, returned to his native Pittsburgh to orchestrate a 31-7 Dolphins victory—the Steelers' worst defeat ever at Three Rivers Stadium.

The anticipated duel between Marino, the former University of Pittsburgh All-America, and the Steelers' David Woodley, whom Marino unseated as Miami's number-one quarterback in 1983, ended when Woodley suffered a



Continuing his assault on the NFL record book, Chicago's Walter Payton set a new career rushing record in the Bears' 20-7 victory against New Orleans. By rushing for 154 yards, Payton surpassed Jim Brown's total of 12,312 yards rushing, finishing the day with 12,400.

WEEK SIX

concussion in the first quarter and couldn't come back. With Marino throwing two touchdown passes to help the Dolphins open a 21-0 halftime lead, the Steelers couldn't come back, either.

Quarterback Neil Lomax and wide receiver Roy Green unloaded on Dallas in the second half to break open a close game as St. Louis surprised the Cowboys 31-20. Well, not everyone was surprised.

"We're as good a team as they are," said Green, who caught touchdown passes of 70 and 45 yards as the Cardinals scored 17 consecutive points in the third quarter to zoom to a 31-13 lead.

Dallas head coach Tom Landry replaced ineffective quarterback Gary Hogeboom with Danny White late in the third quarter, and White connected on a 10-yard scoring pass with rookie tight end Fred Cornwell early in the fourth period, but by then it was academic.

Said White: "We were flat. We were dead, and we played

The rampaging 49ers take a three-game lead

STANDINGS	W	L	T		W	L	T	SCORES
AFC East				**NFC East**				**AFC**
Miami	6	0	0	Dallas	4	2	0	Cincinnati 13, Houston 3
New England	4	2	0	Washington	4	2	0	L.A. Raiders 28, Seattle 14
N.Y. Jets	4	2	0	N.Y. Giants	3	3	0	Miami 31, Pittsburgh 7
Indianapolis	2	4	0	St. Louis	3	3	0	New England 17, Cleveland 16
Buffalo	0	6	0	Philadelphia	2	4	0	N.Y. Jets 17, Kansas City 16
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	Chicago	4	2	0	Atlanta 30, L.A. Rams 28
Cincinnati	1	5	0	Tampa Bay	3	3	0	Chicago 20, New Orleans 7
Cleveland	1	5	0	Minnesota	2	4	0	St. Louis 31, Dallas 20
Houston	0	6	0	Detroit	1	5	0	San Francisco 31, N.Y.Giants 10
AFC West				Green Bay	1	5	0	Tampa Bay 35, Minnesota 31
Denver	5	1	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
L.A. Raiders	5	1	0	San Francisco	6	0	0	Denver 28, Detroit 7
San Diego	4	2	0	Atlanta	3	3	0	Philadelphia 27, Buffalo 17
Seattle	4	2	0	L.A. Rams	3	3	0	San Diego 34, Green Bay 28
Kansas City	3	3	0	New Orleans	3	3	0	Washington 35, Indianapolis 7

> **"On the last drive of the game, Matt Suhey was running and Payton just butted our corner in the middle of his chest," said Saints coach Bum Phillips. "I mean he butted him. That's what impresses me. The game's over, the record's broke, somebody else is carrying the ball, and Payton is still going."**

the kind of game you expect to lose."

Finally playing the kind of football their opponents became accustomed to in 1982 and 1983, the Redskins tuned up for an NFC East showdown with Dallas in Week Seven by ripping Indianapolis 35-7.

Leading the way for the Redskins were quarterback Joe Theismann, who matched his previous 1984 total of four touchdown passes with four against the Colts, and wide receiver Art Monk, who caught three of Theismann's scoring throws.

"Not only was this my best game of the season," said Theismann, who was 17 of 20 for 267 yards, "but it was one of the best of my career.

"We played as good a game as we have played for a long time—and it's the right time to do it. It's the money time of the season, when some teams start to fall back, and some start to come on. We want to come on."

It would have been hard for the 49ers to come on any stronger in the first half against the Giants on Monday night.

Three touchdown passes by Joe Montana, including a 59-yard lightning bolt to wide receiver Renaldo Nehemiah less then three minutes into the game, and a 79-yard punt return for a touchdown by Dana McLemore, created a 28-3 49ers lead early in the second quarter. Only the final score (31-10) was in doubt after that.

Before this week, Raiders backup quarterback Marc Wilson hadn't played in a regular-season game since November 6, 1983, when he broke a shoulder against Kansas City. But when Jim Plunkett went to the sidelines with a pulled stomach muscle late in the first quarter against Seattle, Wilson hit the same impressive groove he found in 1983.

Wilson completed 12 of 19 passes for 309 yards. He connected with running back Marcus Allen on a 58-yard touchdown pass and a 92-yard completion, which set up a 1-yard touchdown run by Allen. The Raiders' 28-14 victory moved them a game ahead of Seattle in the AFC West.

Dana McLemore's 79-yard punt return for a touchdown midway through the first quarter helped the 49ers turn the Giants' lights out early.

But the Raiders couldn't pick up ground on the Broncos, who remained tied for first by defeating Detroit 28-7.

The Lions outgained Denver 348 yards to 287, but seven interceptions, including one Broncos linebacker Ken Woodard returned for a touchdown, and three lost fumbles, one of which defensive end Rulon Jones returned five yards for a score, ruined Detroit.

Cleveland blew a 16-3 lead against New England, and then failed to take advantage of two chances in the final four minutes to defeat the Patriots, who escaped with a 17-16 victory.

The Browns surrendered their lead in the first minute of the fourth quarter when New England running back Tony Collins scored on a two-yard run.

Cleveland placekicker Matt Bahr, who converted three field goals in the first half, hooked a 36-yard attempt that would have put the Browns back on top with 3:12 left. Cleveland regained the ball and drove from its 30 to the New England 21 with 23 seconds remaining. Although the Browns were within field goal range, quarterback Paul McDonald threw a pass that was intercepted by Raymond Clayborn who returned it 85 yards to the Browns' 7.

"I should never have put him [McDonald] in the position I put him in when he threw the interception," said Rutigliano. "It was my decision, and it was the wrong one."

Cincinnati, with rookie quarterback Boomer Esiason making his first NFL start and scoring the game's only touchdown, won a battle of the winless by defeating Houston 13-3.

"Has Reagan called yet?" quipped Bengals head coach Sam Wyche after his first NFL victory.

Cincinnati linebacker Glenn Cameron, a 10-year veteran who played in Super Bowl XVI, had a more realistic comment. "At least now my dog won't bite me," he said, "and my wife won't lock the door on me."

NEWSMAKERS

Cain *House* *Jaworski* *Winslow*

Fouts and Winslow stage an all-pro show

Quarterback **Dan Fouts** and tight end **Kellen Winslow**—perhaps the NFL's most devastating passing tandem—devastated Green Bay in a 34-28 San Diego victory. Fouts completed 31 of 50 passes for 376 yards and three touchdowns. Winslow had a club-record 15 receptions for 157 yards. Kansas City placekicker **Nick Lowery** made good on all three of his field goal attempts in a 17-16 loss to the Jets. He became the NFL's career accuracy leader with 100 field goals in 131 tries (.736). Atlanta running back **Lynn Cain**, subbing for injured Gerald Riggs, rushed 35 times for 145 yards and three touchdowns—all career highs—as the Falcons defeated the Rams 30-28. Eagles quarterback **Ron Jaworski**, playing in his one hundred and ninth consecutive game (tops among active quarterbacks), passed for two touchdowns and ran for another in a 27-17 win at Buffalo. Wide receiver **Kevin House** caught seven passes for 126 yards and one touchdown to help Tampa Bay defeat Minnesota 35-31. **Mosi Tatupu** rushed for 83 yards in New England's come-from-behind 17-16 defeat of Cleveland.

Quarterback Boomer Esiason's first start: the Bengals' first win.

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HONDA

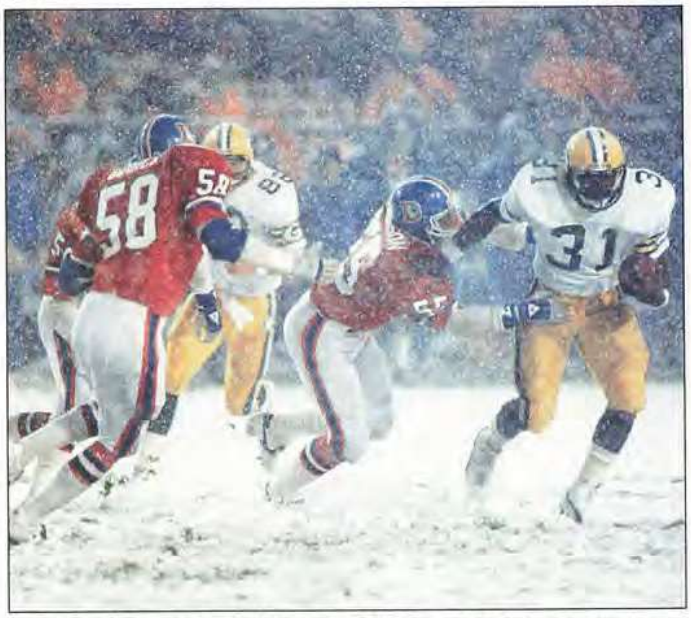
The Civic Wagon

OCT. 14

WEEK SEVEN

Pittsburgh head coach Chuck Noll is usually a hard man to impress. Maybe it's because his teams have won four Super Bowls; most people will agree that's pretty impressive.

But when the Steelers came from behind to defeat San Francisco 20-17 at Candlestick Park this week, Noll was duly impressed.



The ides of October brought a blizzard to Mile High Stadium, where running back Gerry Ellis and the Packers slipped up against Denver.

The Redskins romp past Dallas, the Packers get lost in a Denver snowstorm, and the Steelers impress their coach.

"Super Bowl victories are great," he said, "but I've never been associated with a greater victory than this one."

After Pittsburgh tied the score 17-17 on quarterback Mark Malone's six-yard touchdown pass to John Stallworth with 3:21 left, linebacker Bryan Hinkle returned a one-handed interception 43 yards to set up a game-winning 21-yard field goal by Gary Anderson with 1:42 remaining.

The loss, San Francisco's first of the season, reduced the 49ers' lead over the Rams (28-10 victors at New Orleans) to two games; Pittsburgh moved three games in front of Cincinnati and Cleveland in the AFC Central.

Despite acquiring Earl Campbell from Houston earlier in the week, the Saints' offense was harmless (and in considerable disarray). Campbell gained 19 yards on five carries, and George Rogers added but 11 more yards rushing. Head coach Bum Phillips even began alternating quarterbacks Richard Todd and Ken Stabler (neither of whom was effective), a strategy he previously has abhored, and for which he was booed.

Conversely, the Rams' offense was purring nicely. Running back Eric Dickerson rushed for 164 yards on 21 carries, and quarterback Jeff Kemp rifled three touchdown passes.

All of which greatly displeased the Superdome crowd of 63,161.

"There ain't but one guy to pin it [the loss] on, and that's me," Phillips said. "I know who the fans were booing."

The fans at RFK Stadium were roaring a different tune. Washington dominated Dallas 34-14 to regain sole possession of first place in the NFC East. John Riggins pounded the Cowboys for 165 yards on 32 carries. ("It felt more like thirty-two hundred carries," he said.) Joe Theismann fired three touchdown passes—two short ones to tight end Clint Didier and an 80-yard bomb to newly-acquired (from the Raiders) wide receiver Calvin Muhammad.

With his big day, Riggins became only the fifth NFL running back to surpass the 10,000-yard rushing figure. Typically, he underplayed the achievement. "I've never really thought about ten thousand yards," he said. "Besides, they don't give medals for fifth place."

Kansas City quarterback Bill Kenney, out with a broken thumb since the Chiefs' final preseason game, replaced Todd Blackledge midway through the third quarter with the Chiefs leading San Diego 10-6. After throwing an interception that cornerback Gill Byrd returned 99 yards for a touchdown ("I was rusty," Kenney said), he passed for 238 yards and two touchdowns, and the Chiefs stormed past the Chargers 31-13.

Another quarterback who came off the bench to galvanize his team was Detroit's Gary Danielson, who replaced starter Eric Hipple (strained knee ligaments) in the second quarter against Tampa Bay. Danielson, who had been benched in favor of Hipple by head coach Monte Clark after starting the Lions' first six games this year, ran 18 yards for one touchdown and threw a 37-yard scoring pass to wide receiver Leonard Thompson in overtime. Detroit's 13-7 victory made it the only NFC Central team to win this week.

"When you've had as much success as we have had over the years," said Tom Landry after Dallas's 34-14 loss at Washington, "you're going to sag back from time to time. Only time will tell how far we've sagged back. We're 4-3 right now, and it can get a whole lot worse than this."

"I wanted to show everyone that I could play," Danielson said. "It's been a very traumatic week for me."

Green Bay and Denver played "snowball" at snow-swept Mile High Stadium on Monday night, with both teams slippin' and slidin' the entire evening as the drifts accumulated.

Despite offensive gallantry by quarterback Lynn Dickey (27 of 37 for 371 yards) and wide receiver James Lofton (11 catches for 206 yards and one touchdown) in the swirling, treacherous weather, Green Bay lost its sixth consecutive game 17-14.

The "turning point" occurred in the first 37 seconds of play, when Green Bay running backs Gerry Ellis and Jessie Clark lost fumbles on the Packers' first two plays from scrimmage. Both fum-

NEWSMAKERS

Clarke *Collins* *Largent* *Reasons*

Largent's great hands kill Bills softly

Wide receiver **Steve Largent's** second touchdown catch of the game—a 51-yard pass from quarterback **Dave Krieg**—gave Seattle a 31-28 victory against Buffalo. **Ottis Anderson** rushed for 82 yards and a touchdown to help St. Louis defeat Chicago 38-21. Rookie linebackers **Carl Banks** and **Gary Reasons** were instrumental in the Giants' 19-7 win at Atlanta. "This week, our motto was 'Be around the ball, make it seem like we've got fourteen people out there—and hit people,' " said fellow Giants linebacker Lawrence Taylor. Defensive linemen **Ken Clarke** and **Dennis Harrison** were hitting the Colts; each had six solo tackles and two sacks, and helped the Eagles limit the AFC's top rushing team to 127 yards on the ground in a 16-7 victory. Rookie **Paul McFadden** kicked three field goals for Philadelphia's final nine points. **Chris Bahr's** 20-yard field goal as time expired gave the Raiders a 23-20 victory against Minnesota. Rams linebacker **Jim Collins** had 14 solo tackles and safety **Nolan Cromwell** intercepted two passes—returning one for a touchdown—in Los Angeles's 28-10 win at New Orleans.

PICK OF THE PROS

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WEEK SEVEN

bles were returned by Denver for touchdowns—Ellis's by Steve Foley, Clark's by Louis Wright.

A 30-yard field goal by Rich Karlis in the second quarter turned out to be the game winner. However, the Packers' offense moved the ball surprisingly well in the ankle-deep snow (they outgained the Broncos 423 yards to 193), and scored a pair of touchdowns in the second half.

"With all that snow on the ground, our timing was off," said Denver head coach Dan Reeves. "It seemed like we were playing on snow, and they were playing on a fast surface."

It still wasn't enough for the Packers to dig themselves out of another loss.

Cleveland plummeted further in the AFC Central, falling 24-20 to the Jets when rookie Tony Paige plunged for a one-yard touchdown—and the winning points—with 5:39 left.

"Now I know what it's like to be in a gas chamber," said Browns head coach Sam Rutigliano, whose team dropped to 1-6. "We were suffocated by our mistakes."

The Jets, led by Johnny Hector's career-highs of 10 carries for 97 yards rushing, remained tied for second in the AFC East with New England. The Patriots trailed Cincinnati 14-3 at halftime, but rallied behind quarterback Tony Eason's two touchdown runs to win 20-14.

Miami, the lone remaining undefeated team in the NFL, kept its two-game lead in the division, defeating Houston 28-10.

The Dolphins led the winless Oilers by only 7-0 at halftime, but rookie Joe Carter (105 yards rushing, including a 25-yard touchdown), and quarterback Dan Marino (25 of 32, 321 yards, three touchdowns) were too much for the Oilers to handle in the second half.

"We played as well as we could play," said Houston head coach Hugh Campbell. "It may be a sad commentary on this football team...I'll let you draw your own conclusions about that."

Wide receiver John Stallworth and the Steelers KO'd the 49ers.

Quarterback Neil Lomax ran and passed St. Louis past Chicago.

A knot forms behind Redskins in NFC East

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	7	0	0	Washington	5	2	0	Kansas City 31, San Diego 13
New England	5	2	0	Dallas	4	3	0	Miami 28, Houston 10
N.Y. Jets	5	2	0	N.Y. Giants	4	3	0	New England 20, Cincinnati 14
Indianapolis	2	5	0	St. Louis	4	3	0	N.Y. Jets 24, Cleveland 20
Buffalo	0	7	0	Philadelphia	3	4	0	Seattle 31, Buffalo 28
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	4	3	0	Chicago	4	3	0	Detroit 13, Tampa Bay 7 (OT)
Cincinnati	1	6	0	Tampa Bay	3	4	0	L.A. Rams 28, New Orleans 10
Cleveland	1	6	0	Detroit	2	5	0	N.Y. Giants 19, Atlanta 7
Houston	0	7	0	Minnesota	2	5	0	St. Louis 38, Chicago 21
AFC West				Green Bay	1	6	0	Washington 34, Dallas 14
Denver	6	1	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
L.A. Raiders	6	1	0	San Francisco	6	1	0	Denver 17, Green Bay 14
Seattle	5	2	0	L.A. Rams	4	3	0	L.A. Raiders 23, Minnesota 20
Kansas City	4	3	0	Atlanta	3	4	0	Philadelphia 16, Indianapolis 7
San Diego	4	3	0	New Orleans	3	4	0	Pittsburgh 20, San Francisco 17

OCT. 21 WEEK EIGHT

It looked like Doomsday in Dallas.

There were the Cowboys ...coming off their 34-14 Week Seven Waterloo at Washington ...playing blandly against New Orleans at home...losing 27-6 in the fourth quarter...staring at their third consecutive loss... nosediving toward a 4-4 record.

America's Team was getting booed loudly — *by its hometown fans.*

"The coffin," admitted Dallas head coach Tom Landry, "was just about nailed shut."

But the Cowboys rewrote the obituary.

First, Chuck McSwain blocked a punt—the first blocked punt by a Dallas player in seven years—and Tony Dorsett scored one play later on a three-yard run to slice the margin to 27-13 at 1:39 of the final quarter.

Next, quarterback Danny White, replacing injured Gary Hogeboom, consummated an 88-yard drive with a 12-yard scoring pass to Mike Renfro; that made it 27-20.

The Cowboys tied the Saints with 2:53 left when Dallas defensive tackle Randy White sacked Ken Stabler at the New Orleans 1, forcing a fumble that defensive end Jim Jeffcoat recovered in the end zone.

Rafael Septien made it all worthwhile with a 41-yard field goal at 3:42 of overtime to give Dallas a 30-27 victory.

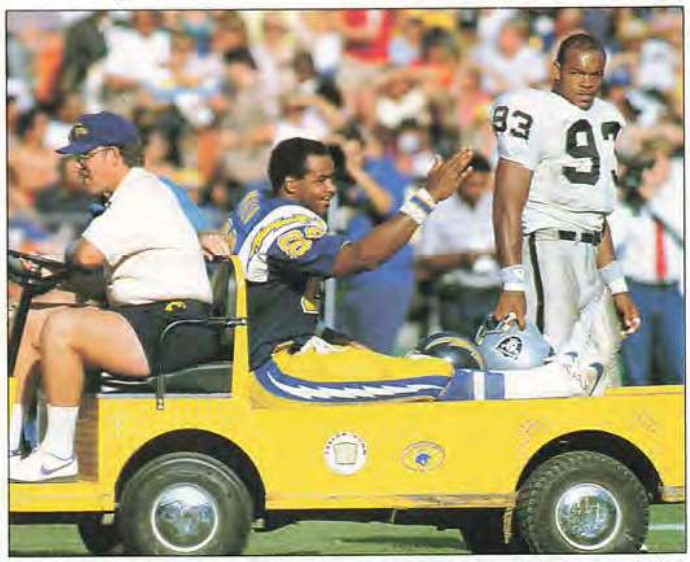
"It's a great moment...one that will be remembered for a long time," Danny White said. "It's a strange feeling to stand on the sideline and have your emotions controlled by one little Mexican kicker."

There was another emotional riptide at San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium, where a record regular-season crowd of 57,442 saw the Raiders survive the Chargers' desperate fourth-quarter comeback, including an apparent game-tying touchdown by the Chargers in the final 90 seconds that was disallowed because of a holding call.

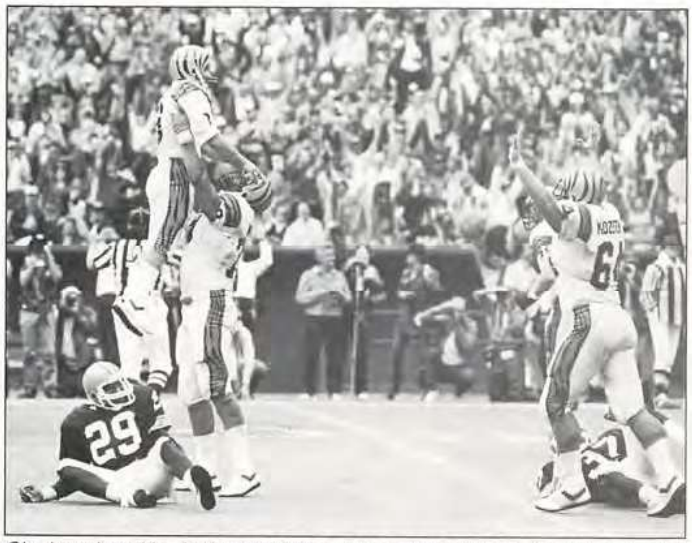
"Any time we play those guys, the games turn out crazy," said quarterback Marc Wilson, whose five touchdown passes helped the Raiders build a 41-23 lead early in the fourth quarter.

The Cowboys detour doomsday, St. Louis increases NFC East intrigue, and the Bears make their points (44) in Tampa.

Intrepid Dan Fouts created some of the craziness by tossing touchdown passes to tight end Kellen Winslow and wide receiver Bobby Duckworth—sandwiched around Raiders placekicker Chris Bahr's 32-yard field goal—to cut the deficit to 44-37 with 2:36 remaining.



As Raiders defensive end Greg Townsend looks on, San Diego's Kellen Winslow exits the stadium—and the season—with torn knee ligaments.



Cincinnati tackle Anthony Munoz hoists placekicker Jim Breech aloft after Breech's fourth field goal hoisted the Bengals over the Browns.

The Raiders and Broncos set up a showdown

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	8	0	0	Dallas	5	3	0	Cincinnati 12, Cleveland 9
N.Y. Jets	6	2	0	St. Louis	5	3	0	Denver 37, Buffalo 7
New England	5	3	0	Washington	5	3	0	Indianapolis 17, Pittsburgh 16
Indianapolis	3	5	0	N.Y. Giants	4	4	0	L.A. Raiders 44, San Diego 37
Buffalo	0	8	0	Philadelphia	4	4	0	Miami 44, New England 24
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				N.Y. Jets 28, Kansas City 7
Pittsburgh	4	4	0	Chicago	5	3	0	**NFC**
Cincinnati	2	6	0	Detroit	3	5	0	Chicago 44, Tampa Bay 9
Cleveland	1	7	0	Tampa Bay	3	5	0	Dallas 30, New Orleans 27 (OT)
Houston	0	8	0	Minnesota	2	6	0	Detroit 16, Minnesota 14
AFC West				Green Bay	1	7	0	L.A. Rams 24, Atlanta 10
Denver	7	1	0	**NFC West**				Philadelphia 24, N.Y. Giants 10
L.A. Raiders	7	1	0	San Francisco	7	1	0	St. Louis 26, Washington 24
Seattle	6	2	0	L.A. Rams	5	3	0	**Interconference**
Kansas City	4	4	0	Atlanta	3	5	0	San Francisco 34, Houston 21
San Diego	4	4	0	New Orleans	3	5	0	Seattle 30, Green Bay 24

The Chargers' defense stopped its leaks on the ensuing series, forcing a punt by Ray Guy. Fouts (410 yards passing) and his sky commandos had a last chance from their own 16-yard line with 2:06 left.

Fouts airlifted the Chargers to the Los Angeles 21 in just 33 seconds. Three plays later, rookie wide receiver Jesse Bendross caught his first NFL pass and headed for the end zone—seemingly in the clear. But self-inflicted tragedy struck Bendross at the 3, where the ball suddenly squirted loose out of bounds.

"I think I was too excited to get into the end zone," Bendross said. "I was so excited at catching the ball, I guess my knee popped up and knocked the ball out of bounds."

Undaunted, Fouts sent running back Earnest Jackson up the middle, and Jackson tore into the end zone—but the play was negated by a holding penalty.

On the next down, defensive back Ted Watts muted both the frenzied crowd and the Chargers' comeback by intercepting Fouts in the end zone. The Raiders held on 44-37.

In addition to falling three games behind AFC co-leaders Denver (a 37-7 winner at Buffalo) and Los Angeles, the Chargers also lost Winslow for the season with torn knee ligaments.

In the tightly wrapped NFC East, Philadelphia won its third game in a row, defeating the New York Giants 24-10.

"A month ago we couldn't even leave the house to go shopping because everybody was dumping on us," said Eagles quarterback Ron Jaworski after passing for three touchdowns, including an 83-yard strike to rookie wide receiver Kenny Jackson (who later suffered a shoulder separation). "Now we're in the playoff hunt. This team has come a long way in a month."

Neil O'Donoghue came a long way—in one game—by kicking a 21-yard field goal with three seconds left to give the Cardinals a 26-24 victory against the Redskins, leaving St. Louis, Washington, and Dallas tied for first.

"If I'd missed it, I'd have been packing my bags, that's for sure," O'Donoghue admitted.

Just three minutes prior to his game-winning kick, O'Donoghue had missed a 40-yard field goal attempt. Earlier in the fourth quarter, he had blown an extra point, hitting the left upright after an 83-yard touchdown pass from Neil Lomax to Roy Green, which left the Cardinals trailing 24-23.

Miami averaged 72 yards on seven scoring drives and buried the Patriots 44-24. Afterward, the Patriots praised the Dolphins.

"They don't beat themselves," said New England head coach Ron Meyer. "You have to beat them on every single play. You have to be letter perfect in all phases of the game to beat them. We played pretty well, but pretty well is not good enough."

"I think the Dolphins are better than their undefeated team that went 17-0 [in 1972]," added linebacker Steve Nelson. "They didn't have the striking power they do now."

And in the 'What goes around, comes around' department, Pittsburgh lost a game to Indianapolis on a reception which, if not "Immaculate," at least qualified as miraculous.

Nat Moore snared a scoring pass; Miami snared New England 44-24.

This one came with 34 seconds left at the Hoosier Dome. With the Colts trailing 16-10, quarterback Mike Pagel launched a pass Pittsburgh cornerback Sam Washington tipped—twice—into the air . . . and into the hands of Colts wide receiver Ray Butler, who raced 20 more yards for a 54-yard touchdown. Placekicker Raul Allegre then won it with his extra point.

"It's what you call a 'serendipity play,'" said Colts head coach Frank Kush.

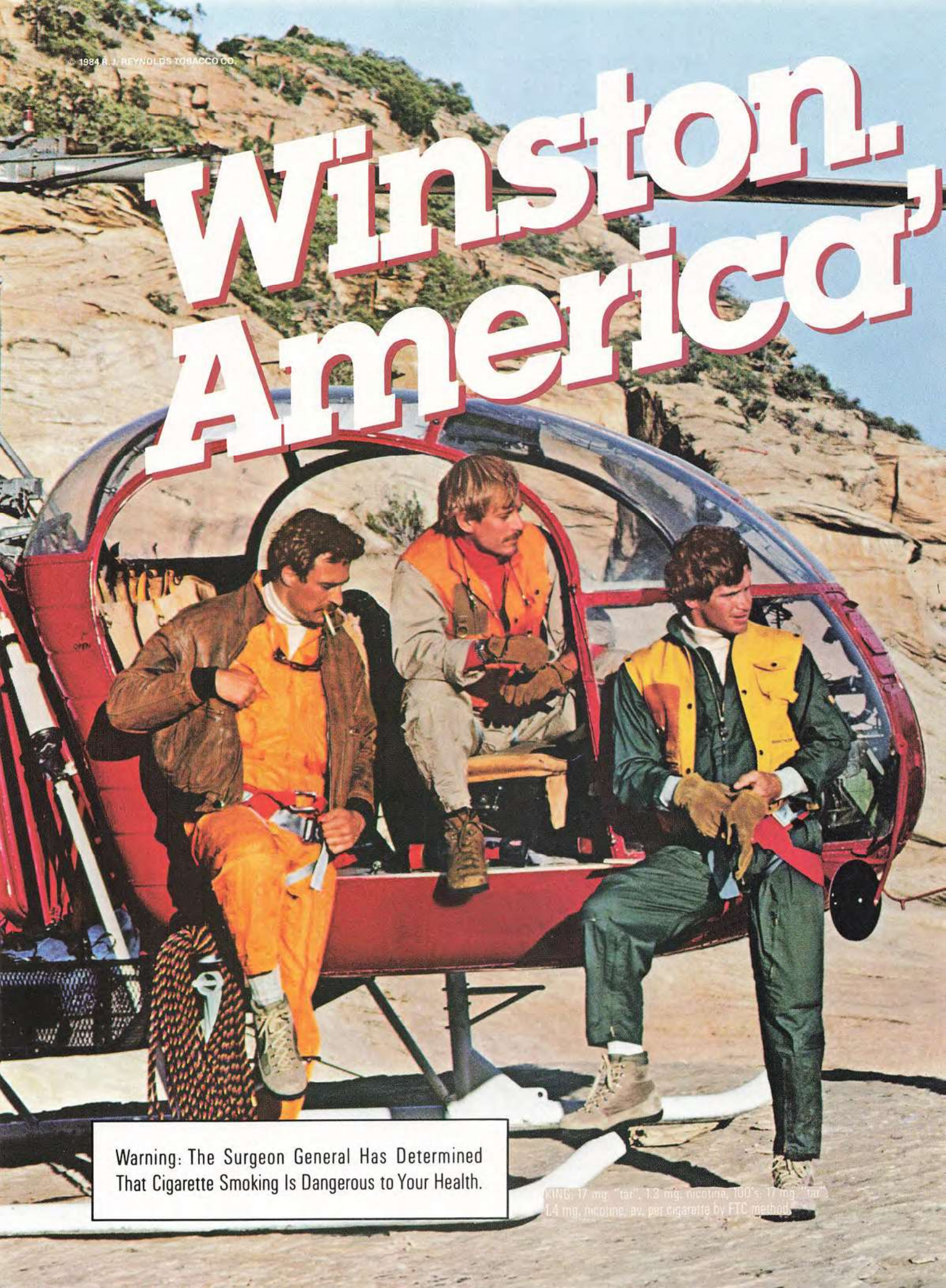
"That's my quarterback," said Jets tackle Marvin Powell, after Pat Ryan riddled the Chiefs with gutty passing under heavy pressure. "He's incredible. . . like a Tennessee thunderclap bursting across the sky in New York City. He's waited and waited and now the Good Lord is giving it back to him."

NEWSMAKERS

Cox *Elway* *Ryan* *Sims*

Atlanta is burned by Ellard and the Rams

Henry Ellard returned a punt 69 yards for a touchdown and caught a nine-yard scoring pass to lead the Rams past Atlanta 24-10. Cleveland's **Steve Cox** kicked a 60-yard field goal—the second longest in NFL history—but four field goals by **Jim Breech** gave Cincinnati a 12-9 victory. Before injuring a shoulder, Denver's **John Elway** passed for 148 yards and two touchdowns. **Billy Sims** suffered a season-ending knee injury in Detroit's 16-14 victory at Minnesota, but not before rushing for 103 yards and breaking teammate **Dexter Bussey's** Detroit career rushing record of 5,014 yards. **Pat Ryan** (21 of 31, 260 yards, three touchdowns, no interceptions) quarterbacked the Jets to a 28-7 win over Kansas City. Houston's **Warren Moon** (25 of 33, 356 yards, two touchdowns) and San Francisco's **Joe Montana** (25 of 35, 353 yards, three touchdowns) both had big days, but the 49ers won 34-21. Cornerback **Terry Jackson** made a game-saving interception with 24 seconds left to preserve Seattle's 30-24 win at Green Bay. Though Tampa Bay "held" **Walter Payton** to 72 yards rushing, **Jim McMahon** passed for three touchdowns as Chicago crushed the Buccaneers 44-9.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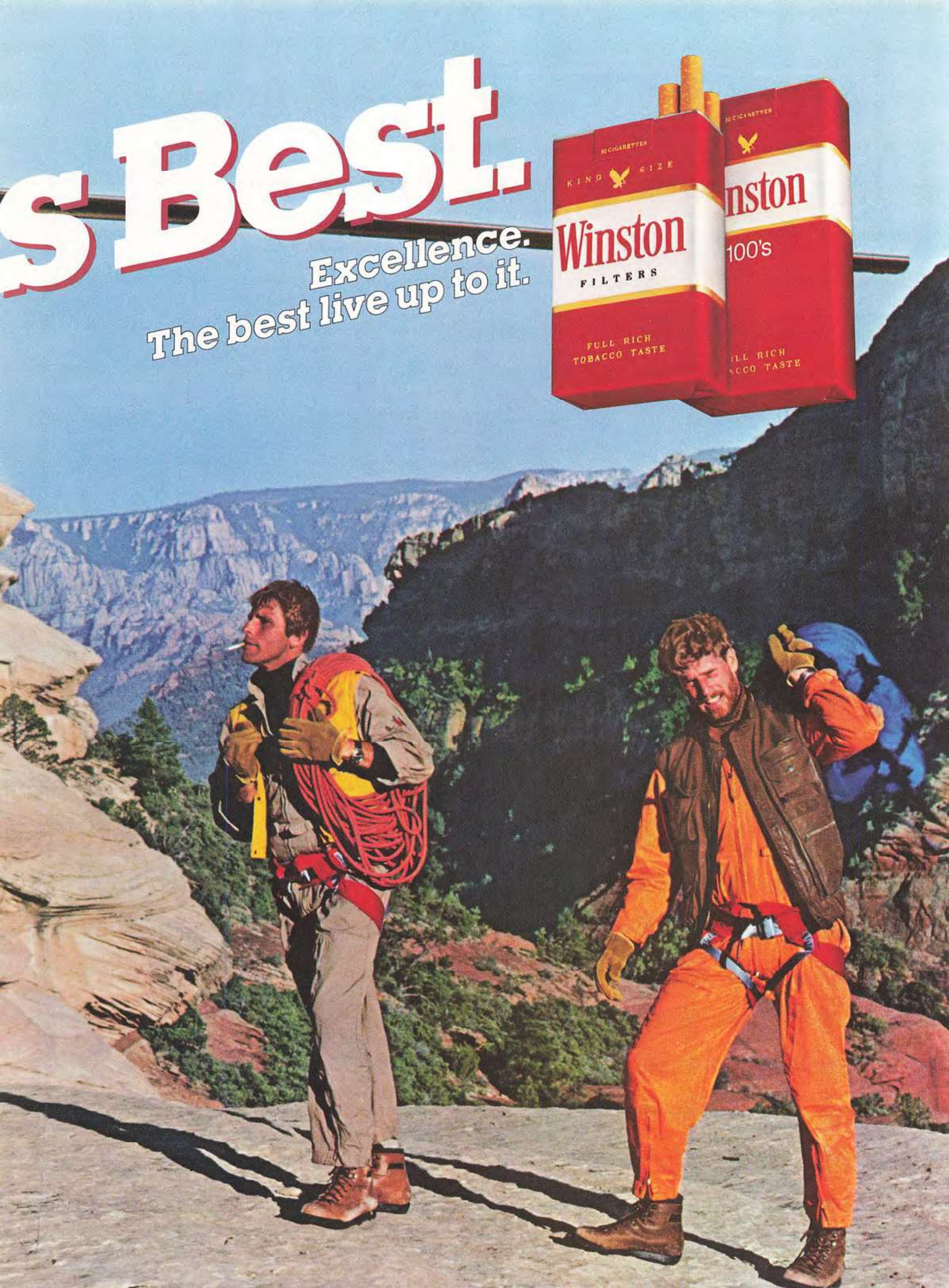
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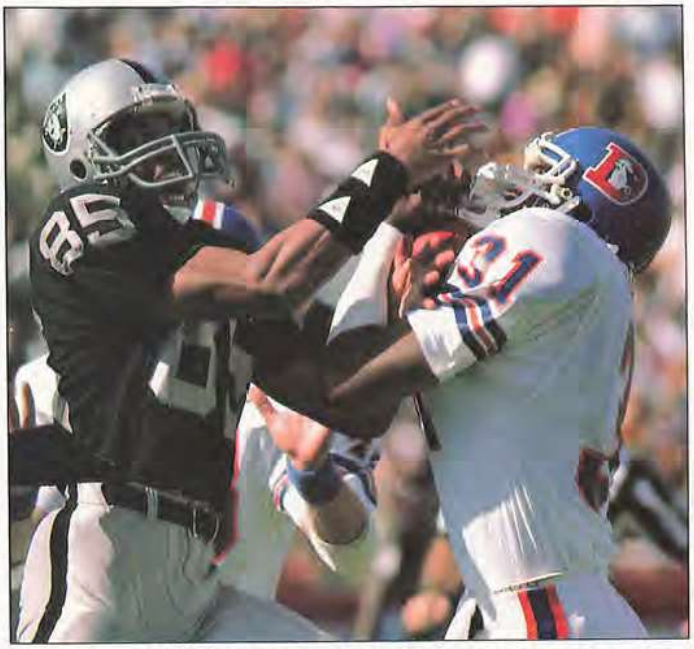
OCT. 28

WEEK NINE

With visions of silver and black goblins dancing in his head, Denver backup quarterback Gary Kubiak admitted he "didn't sleep a lick" the night before starting the third game of his young NFL career against the Raiders in Los Angeles.

Denver ace John Elway was sidelined with a shoulder injury; two fourth-quarter touchdown passes, the second one climaxing a desperate 84-yard drive, to rally the Broncos to a 19-19 tie in the final furious minute of regulation.

On the final play of a rollicking overtime, the huge Coliseum crowd, accustomed to watching the Raiders steal victories in the closing minutes, winced *en masse* as Rich Karlis drilled a 35-yard field goal to give Denver a 22-19 win.



Denver safety Mike Harden wrests a pass from Raiders wide receiver Dokie Williams; the Broncos wrested away a 22-19 overtime victory.

Denver does it again, Minnesota gets caught in a Bear trap, the 49ers skunk the Rams, and Miami fattens its lead.

it was going to be up to Kubiak, a 1983 eighth-round draft choice, to marshal the Broncos' offense.

Both teams were 7-1. The streets were cleared for this showdown. The winner's prize: sole possession of first place in the AFC West.

The Raiders, playing before the largest home crowd in their history (91,020), craved revenge for a 16-13 loss at Denver in Week Five. It looked for a while like they might satisfy their craving.

Then Kubiak, the insomniac, woke up Denver's offense with

Running back Sammy Winder's 126 yards supported Kubiak's heroics; so did seven turnovers by the Raiders, including a fumble by Marcus Allen that set up the Broncos' game-tying touchdown drive, and a devastating fumble by Frank Hawkins early in overtime at the Denver 11, which wiped out a chance for a duck soup field goal attempt by Raiders placekicker Chris Bahr.

"Denver's been winning on big turnovers and big-play defense," said Raiders defensive end Howie Long. "Today was no exception. You can't downplay that, but I'm a firm believer that you can't do it for a whole year."

There was almost a whole year's worth of excitement and suspense in the Raiders-Broncos game. Otherwise, blowouts were the order of the week.

A little further south in Anaheim, for instance, the runaway 49ers further distanced themselves from the rest of the NFC West pack by butting the Rams 33-0.

About the only thing the Rams did correctly all day was to be realistic afterward. "Really, the 49ers have the division, unless they slip badly," said Los Angeles linebacker Jim Collins.

"I think we'll come back," said Rams head coach John Robinson. "But it's questionable if anyone can touch the 49ers. They played like a championship team."

Green Bay running back Eddie Lee Ivery saw his first extensive action in 1984 and rushed for 116 yards (on only nine carries) to help the Packers overwhelm Detroit 41-9.

Dallas's 22-3 conquest of the Colts featured a sharp performance by Danny White, who started his first game of the season and passed for 262 yards and two touchdowns.

Atlanta didn't give Pittsburgh much trouble, as another first-time starter in 1984, quarterback Mark Malone, threw three touchdown passes. The Steelers breezed 35-10.

Some of the other breezes: Cincinnati 31, Houston 13; St. Louis 34, Philadelphia 14; Seattle 24, San Diego 0; and the New York Giants 37, Washington 13.

In the turbulent NFC East, the

Franco Harris (34) was waived by Seattle after it beat San Diego.

Giants had one of those days when everything went right, including an unexpected lift from running back Joe Morris, who rushed for 68 yards and three touchdowns. A revamped defense designed to choke off Washington's running game did just that, holding the Redskins to 79 yards rushing, 88 below their average.

In Philadelphia, St. Louis quarterback Neil Lomax completed all but 6 of his 26 passes, and could have sold programs with the extra time he received from his line, otherwise known as the LPA—the Lomax Protection Agency.

"I keep a picture of the offensive line hanging in my locker,"

NEWSMAKERS

Board *DeBerg* *Kinnebrew* *Pollard*

Board and the 49ers give the Rams no room

Defensive end **Dwaine Board** had two sacks—one of which led to a San Francisco touchdown—in the 49ers' 33-0 win against the Rams. Things seemed to come in threes for Seattle in its 24-0 shutout of San Diego. In addition to safety **Kenny Easley's** three interceptions, quarterback **Dave Krieg** threw three touchdown passes—all caught by wide receiver **Steve Largent**. However, after gaining three yards on three carries, running back **Franco Harris** was released by the Seahawks. Green Bay rookie safety **Tom Flynn** stole three Detroit passes in the Packers' 41-9 victory. Cincinnati running back **Larry Kinnebrew** rushed 19 times for 80 yards and scored four touchdowns in the Bengals' 31-13 win at Houston. Pittsburgh running back **Frank Pollard** rushed for 111 yards and a touchdown on just 14 carries in the Steelers' 35-10 triumph against Atlanta. Tampa Bay's **Steve DeBerg** (29 of 54 for 280 yards) and Kansas City's **Bill Kenney** (26 of 46 for 332 yards) combined to establish a new single-game record of 100 passing attempts. But the Chiefs' defense let the air out of the Buccaneers, 24-20.

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Eddie Bauer Bronco II.

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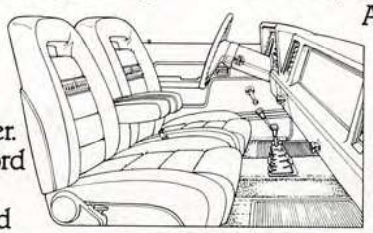

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Advanced Formula STRESSTABS®. No other stress formula vitamin can hold a candle to it.

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WEEK NINE

he said. "With the kind of protection I had, I was standing back there all day. I had time to find my number-three receiver, and, on occasions, I went to my number-four. It was an awesome feeling to get that kind of protection."

Chicago's margin of victory in its 16-7 win against Minnesota didn't fully illustrate the Bears' dominance. More telling were Chicago's team-record 11 sacks and Minnesota's net total of 41 yards rushing.

"It's a game I'd like to forget, and, fortunately, I have forgotten most of it," said Vikings quarterback Archie Manning, who played for injured Tommy Kramer. "I must have had an 'X' on my back."

"I feel sorry for Archie," said Bears linebacker Otis Wilson. "He's going to be real sore tomorrow."

Cleveland began the second half of the season with a new coach when Sam Rutigliano was replaced prior to the Browns' game against New Orleans by defensive coordinator Marty Schottenheimer. But a 53-yard field goal by placekicker Morten Andersen on the final play of the game gave the Saints a 16-14 victory to spoil Schottenheimer's debut.

There also was a coaching change in New England, where Hall of Fame end Raymond Berry replaced head coach Ron Meyer following the Patriots' loss to Miami in Week Eight.

In his first game, Berry didn't do much more than take notes on the sideline. But he watched his new team rally from a 20-3 deficit to beat the Jets 30-20 and move into a second-place tie with New York.

"I've got a bunch of notes here because I didn't have much else to do," Berry said after his first coaching victory. "I told the team before the game that I knew I'd enjoy it, because I had such a heckuva seat. I told them I didn't know one of our plays on offense, and none of our defenses. But I promised the team I'd learn all their names today, which I did."

"Raymond didn't do much coaching," agreed Patriots guard Ron Wooten, "but he was like Alka-Seltzer for an upset stomach. He soothed us."

The Giants tighten the NFC East race

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	9	0	0	Dallas	6	3	0	Cincinnati 31, Houston 13
New England	6	3	0	St. Louis	6	3	0	Denver 22, L.A. Raiders 19 (OT)
N.Y. Jets	6	3	0	N.Y. Giants	5	4	0	Miami 38, Buffalo 7
Indianapolis	3	6	0	Washington	5	4	0	New England 30, N.Y. Jets 20
Buffalo	0	9	0	Philadelphia	4	5	0	Seattle 24, San Diego 0
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	5	4	0	Chicago	6	3	0	Chicago 16, Minnesota 7
Cincinnati	3	6	0	Detroit	3	6	0	Green Bay 41, Detroit 9
Cleveland	1	8	0	Tampa Bay	3	6	0	N.Y. Giants 37, Washington 13
Houston	0	9	0	Green Bay	2	7	0	St. Louis 34, Philadelphia 14
AFC West				Minnesota	2	7	0	San Francisco 33, L.A. Rams 0
Denver	8	1	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
L.A. Raiders	7	2	0	San Francisco	8	1	0	Dallas 22, Indianapolis 3
Seattle	7	2	0	L.A. Rams	5	4	0	Kansas City 24, Tampa Bay 20
Kansas City	5	4	0	New Orleans	4	5	0	New Orleans 16, Cleveland 14
San Diego	4	5	0	Atlanta	3	6	0	Pittsburgh 35, Atlanta 10

Eddie Lee Ivery's stylish return sparked Green Bay past Detroit.

"Dan Marino is a phenomenon," said Bills nose tackle Fred Smerlas, after Miami had smothered Buffalo 38-7. "Without Marino, they have a good offense. With Marino, they have a phenomenal offense. If he continues like that, he'll be in the Hall of Fame by his third year."

NOV. 4 WEEK TEN

If three's a crowd, four's a crush—as in a four-way first-place crush in the NFC East.

Breathing room? Forget it. Except in Miami and San Francisco, and, to a lesser degree, Chicago and Pittsburgh.

After the NFL's tenth weekend, there was no room at the top in the NFC East, where Dallas, Washington, St. Louis, and the New York Giants found themselves ganged together with 6-4 records. Even last-place Philadelphia, 4-5-1 after a 23-23 tie at Detroit, kept the leaders in sight.

This quaternary crunch developed when (1) the Giants defeated Dallas 19-7, (2) the Rams edged the Cardinals 16-13, and (3) Washington dropped Atlanta 27-14.

As part of Dallas's Silver Anniversary Season celebration at Texas Stadium, the Cowboys honored members of their original 1960 team, which finished 0-11-1.

"During the game," wrote Paul Hagen in *Pro Football Weekly*, "the 1984 Cowboys honored their predecessors in the most symbolic way possible. They played like them."

"We didn't cross the fifty in the second half," said running back Tony Dorsett, "and that's lack of pride."

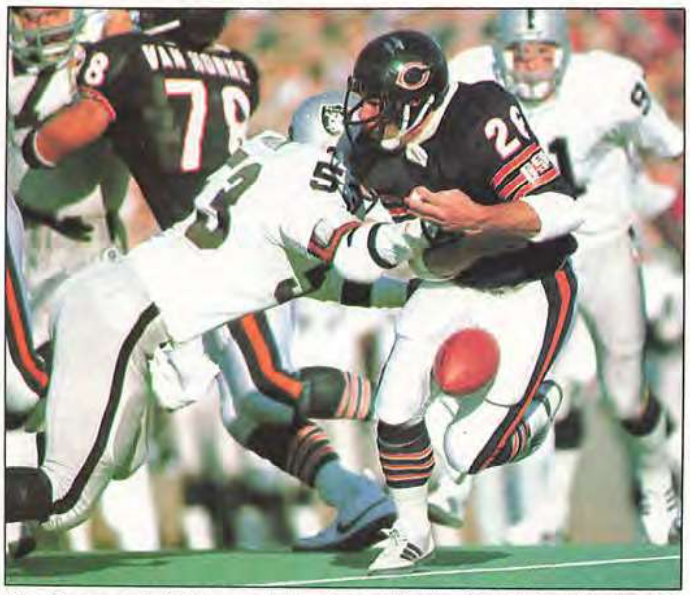
"It's dark in this tunnel right now," added cornerback Dennis Thurman. "Somebody's got to come up with a flashlight. I guess we're not realizing the importance of every game. A lot of people forget what it takes to get to the playoffs. We're playing teams like New York who are fighting for their lives."

Four field goals by Ali Haji-Sheikh, who had missed 10 of his 16 previous attempts in 1984, were the difference in the Giants' second victory over Dallas this year—the first time *that's* happened since 1963.

St. Louis, despite leading the Rams 13-3 at halftime, fell back into the pack when defensive end Jack Youngblood blocked Neil O'Donoghue's 48-yard field goal attempt on the game's final play at Busch Stadium.

In addition to the blocked kick, Youngblood had three of the Rams' six sacks and forced a fumble that led to a field goal.

The win left Los Angeles with a 6-4 record. But San Francisco, despite quarterback Joe Montana's four interceptions, squeaked



The Bears and Raiders got physical at Soldier Field. Rod Martin (53) rips the ball from Matt Suhey, but the Bears ripped up Los Angeles 17-6.

It's not lonely at the top in the NFC East, but Miami and San Francisco wave goodbye in their divisional "races."

WEEK TEN

by Cincinnati 23-17 to improve its record to 9-1 and maintain a three-game lead over the Rams in the NFC West.

"I don't remember throwing four interceptions before," said Montana, who atoned for the turnovers with a game-winning four-yard touchdown pass to Freddie Solomon with 1:39 left. "I hope it never happens again."

Kansas City quarterbacks Bill Kenney, Todd Blackledge, and Sandy Osiecki weren't as fortunate as Montana. The trio was intercepted a total of six times by Seattle. That wasn't all. The Seahawks set an NFL record by returning four of the interceptions for touchdowns in their 45-0 rout of the Chiefs.

Cornerback Dave Brown had two of the interception touchdowns (95 yards and 58 yards); safety Kenny Easley (58 yards) and cornerback Keith Simpson (76 yards) each had one. Rookie cornerback Terry Taylor stole the other two passes.

The Seahawks remained one game behind AFC West leader Denver, which rallied to defeat New England 26-19.

One experienced Bronco seemed convinced Denver was a team of destiny after safety Dennis Smith picked up a fumble by New England running back Mosi Tatupu and returned it 64 yards for the game's winning score with 1:45 remaining.

"It's starting to feel destined," said twelfth-year linebacker Tom Jackson. "The more things happen like what happened out there, it fosters that belief. I've been around a while, and I've seen those plays go the other way."

The Broncos picked up another game on the Raiders, whose quarterbacks were bruised, battered, and sacked nine times in a turbulent 17-6 loss at Chicago.

With Jim Plunkett already dry-docked with a pulled abdominal muscle, both Marc Wilson (sprained thumb) and David Humm (torn knee ligaments) went down against the Bears. Wilson, who was being x-rayed in the locker room, returned to finish the game when Humm got hurt late in the first half.

"I haven't gotten my butt kicked like that since the eighth grade," said Raiders defensive end Howie Long. "And that kid moved out of the neighborhood, and I never had a chance to get even."

Miami was tested by the Jets, and trailed 17-14 early in the fourth quarter. But the Dolphins scored the game's final 17 points for a 31-17 victory.

Continuing to provide a symmetrical counterpoint to undefeated Miami, winless Houston and Buffalo lost to Pittsburgh and Cleveland, respectively.

Pittsburgh wide receiver John Stallworth caught three touchdown passes in a driving rain to spark the Steelers' 35-7 victory, which extended the Oilers' NFL record for consecutive losses on the road to 23.

It was raining in Buffalo, too, where the Bills were upended 13-10 when Cleveland running back Earnest Byner scooped up teammate Willis Adams's fumble (following a reception) and raced 55 yards for the winning points midway through the fourth quarter.

"You can always look Lady Luck in the eye," said Cleveland head coach Marty Schottenheimer, after his first victory as an NFL head coach. "The harder you work, the luckier you get."

The philosophizing was a little different in the Bills' locker room.

"What can you say?" asked Buffalo nose tackle Fred Smerlas. "We're snakebit."

"Hell, I don't believe in ties," said Detroit defensive tackle Doug English, when the Lions and Eagles wound up stalemated 23-23 after overtime at the Pontiac Silverdome. "I wish we could have played to the death . . . played forever until somebody scored. A tie is a loss to me."

NEWSMAKERS

Coffman

Dent

Dickerson

James

Chicago Dents the Raiders' title hopes

Defensive end **Richard Dent** had four and one-half sacks in Chicago's 17-6 victory against the Raiders. Helping heat up Green Bay's offense was tight end **Paul Coffman**, who caught two touchdown passes in a 23-13 win at New Orleans. **Eric Dickerson** rushed 21 times for 208 yards (a 9.9 average) in the Rams' victory at St. Louis. Other productive running backs included Detroit's **Ken Jenkins** (76 yards rushing, eight receptions for 128 yards), New England's **Craig James** (120 yards on 20 carries), and Washington's **John Riggins** (100 yards and two touchdowns). San Diego wide receiver **Charlie Joiner** caught nine passes in a 38-10 victory against the Colts to move past Don Maynard and Raymond Berry into second place on the NFL's all-time reception list. Somewhere a photograph of **Jan Stenerud** may be aging, *a la* Dorian Gray, but the ageless Vikings placekicker boomed a 53-yard field goal with two seconds left to defeat Tampa Bay 27-24. "How old is that guy, forty-three?" wondered Buccaneers nose tackle David Logan. "I didn't know he had fifty-three yards in him. He made it with five yards to spare."

Denver overtook Tony Eason (11) and New England late in the game.

Cleveland rookie running back Earnest Byner defeated Buffalo by racing 55 yards for a game-winning touchdown with a fourth-quarter fumble.

Coming soon: the annual Wild Card scramble

STANDINGS

AFC East	W	L	T	NFC East	W	L	T
Miami	10	0	0	Dallas	6	4	0
New England	6	4	0	N.Y. Giants	6	4	0
N.Y. Jets	6	4	0	St. Louis	6	4	0
Indianapolis	3	7	0	Washington	6	4	0
Buffalo	0	10	0	Philadelphia	4	5	1
AFC Central				**NFC Central**			
Pittsburgh	6	4	0	Chicago	7	3	0
Cincinnati	3	7	0	Detroit	3	6	1
Cleveland	2	8	0	Green Bay	3	7	0
Houston	0	10	0	Minnesota	3	7	0
AFC West				Tampa Bay	3	7	0
Denver	9	1	0	**NFC West**			
Seattle	8	2	0	San Francisco	9	1	0
L.A. Raiders	7	3	0	L.A. Rams	6	4	0
Kansas City	5	5	0	New Orleans	4	6	0
San Diego	5	5	0	Atlanta	3	7	0

SCORES

AFC

Cleveland 13, Buffalo 10
Denver 26, New England 19
Miami 31, N.Y. Jets 17
Pittsburgh 35, Houston 7
San Diego 38, Indianapolis 10
Seattle 45, Kansas City 0

NFC

Detroit 23, Philadelphia 23 (OT)
Green Bay 23, New Orleans 13
L.A. Rams 16, St. Louis 13
Minnesota 27, Tampa Bay 24
N.Y. Giants 19, Dallas 7
Washington 27, Atlanta 14

Interconference

Chicago 17, L.A. Raiders 6
San Francisco 23, Cincinnati 17

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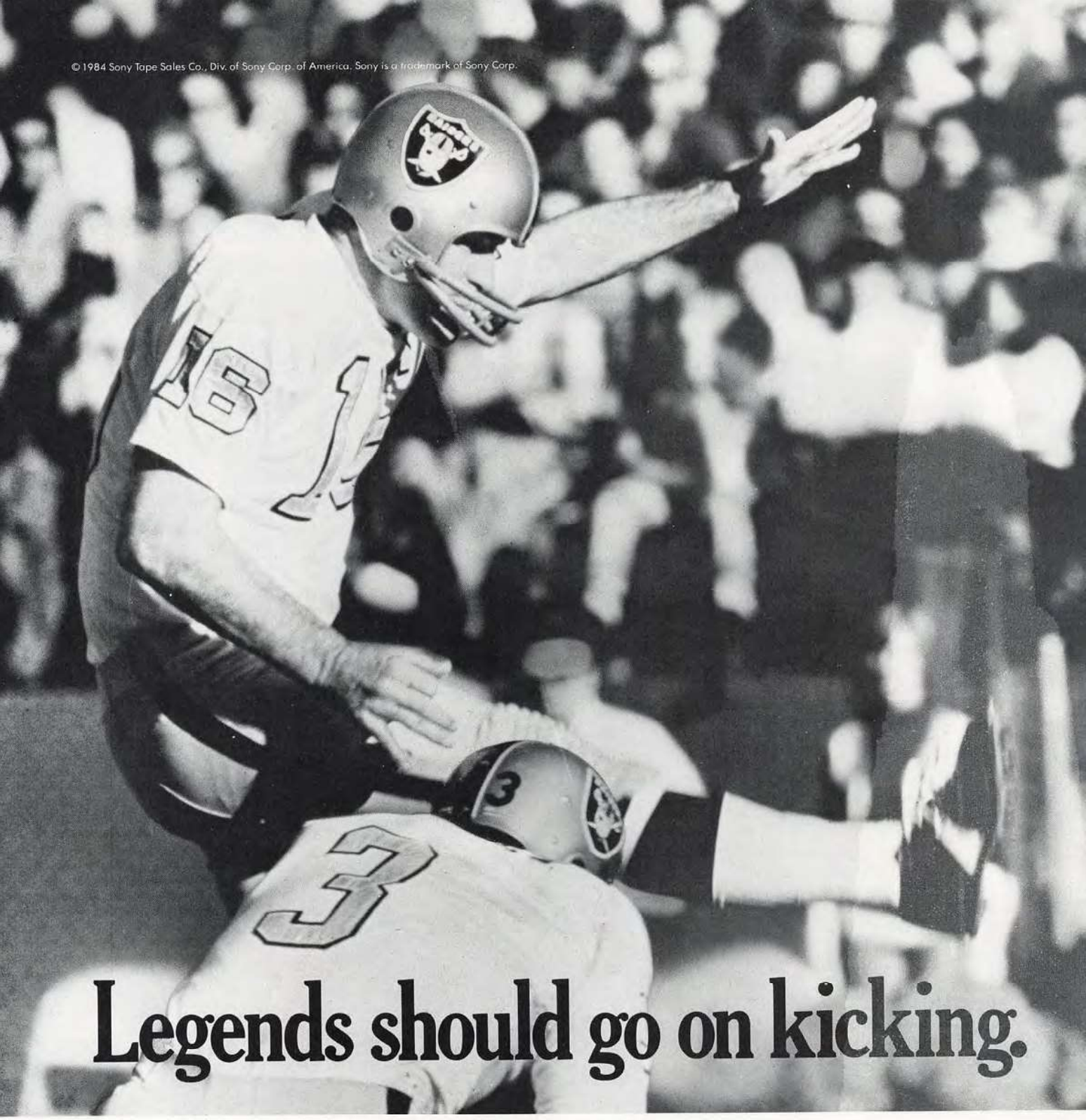

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NOV. 11

WEEK ELEVEN

Anyone who believed Seattle would be 9-2 at this juncture *after* hearing the news about Curt Warner's season-ending knee injury in Week One, raise your hand.

(You don't count, Chuck Knox. You wouldn't have admitted it . . . even if you believed it.)

But it came to pass. By giving those Monday night invincibles, the Los Angeles Raiders, a dose of their own Monday night medicine, the Seahawks won their fifth consecutive game.

Houston's Gregg Bingham (54) and Jesse Baker sack Chiefs quarterback Todd Blackledge in the Oilers' first victory of the season.

Seattle lands a roundhouse blow, Philadelphia nearly gets a knockdown, and Tampa Bay wins one for the skipper.

Seattle's perilous defense provided ball-hawking obstacles every which way for the Raiders, who committed six turnovers. The Seahawks' special teams also created game-long hazards, including nose tackle Joe Nash's block of a potential game-tying field goal by Chris Bahr with 4:46 left.

And, thanks to two touchdown passes by quarterback Dave Krieg and Norm Johnson's 27-yard field goal in the first 11 minutes of the third period, it all added up to a 17-14 Seattle victory.

"We made the plays when we had to," Knox said, "and that's what football is all about."

For the Raiders, with an offense handicapped by quarterback Marc Wilson's sprained thumb (suffered in Week 10 against the Bears), it was their third loss in a row, and only their third loss ever in 25 appearances on Monday night football.

With first-place Denver (10-1) charging from behind with a late touchdown drive to defeat San Diego 16-13, the Raiders (7-4) were left to ponder their wild card chances.

New England—another 7-4 wild card hopeful—kept well up in the running for a playoff spot with a 38-10 victory against Buffalo.

The Bills, however, remained the NFL's only winless team. . . because Houston defeated Kansas City 17-16 at Arrowhead Stadium to win its first game of the year and snap its 23-game road losing streak.

"We're not to the point where we're cocky," said Oilers wide receiver Tim Smith, who caught eight passes for 107 yards. "We're 1-10."

A little cockiness briefly imperiled Miami's perfect record—and may have done in the New York Giants, as well.

The Dolphins fell behind Philadelphia 14-0 in the first quarter at the Orange Bowl. After rallying to take a 24-17 lead late in the game, Miami then yielded a 38-yard touchdown pass from Philadelphia quarterback Ron Jaworski (his third of the game) to wide receiver Melvin Hoover with 1:52 remaining. But Miami snuffed the Eagles' upset bid when 6-foot 7-inch defensive end Doug Betters blocked Paul McFadden's extra point try, and the Dolphins won 24-23.

"I don't think we were emotionally ready to play this game," said Miami nose tackle Bob Baumhower. "A lot of people have been telling us how great we are, and we started believing that."

"We dodged a big-time bullet today," Betters added.

The Giants, riding high after their victories against Washington and Dallas in successive weeks, didn't dodge anything; they were shot down 20-17 by Tampa Bay.

"We got in the penthouse and didn't know how to act," said Giants defensive end Casey Merrill. "We found out it's just above the outhouse."

"What we have to do is continue to take one game at a time," said New England Patriots head coach Raymond Berry, whose team maintained its postseason possibilities with a 38-10 victory against the Colts this week. "As far as I know, we don't play anyone on our schedule named 'playoffs.'"

Elsewhere in the NFC East, Dallas avenged its Week Six loss to St. Louis with a 24-17 victory at Busch Stadium, and Washington, with two running backs doing the work of one John Riggins, defeated Detroit 28-14 to

NEWSMAKERS

Cooper

McKay

Springs

Thompson

The big chill on the road ends for Houston

Running back **Larry Moriarty's** 117 yards rushing, linebacker **Gregg Bingham's** two quarterback sacks, and **Joe Cooper's** 44-yard, fourth-quarter field goal helped Houston end its long victory drought on the road, at Kansas City. Tampa Bay head coach **John McKay**, who announced his retirement effective at the end of the season, was given an early going away present by his team: a 20-17 victory against the Giants. Although Indianapolis placekicker **Raul Allegre** said it was the "worst game I ever had as a pro," he kicked three field goals, and defensive end **Donnell Thompson** had five quarterback sacks as Indianapolis jolted the Jets 9-5. New Orleans tight end **Hoby Brenner** caught two touchdown passes in a 17-13 win at Atlanta. Quarterback **Lynn Dickey** passed for 303 yards and four touchdowns to lead Green Bay over Minnesota 45-17. Cornerback **Ronnie Lippett's** two interceptions punctuated the Patriots' prohibitive defensive performance (Buffalo completed just 13 of 48 passes) in a 38-10 victory. Running back **Ron Springs** scored two touchdowns to help Dallas deflate St. Louis 24-17.

Doug Betters (75) blocks Paul McFadden's PAT to save Miami.

Lynn Dickey (four touchdown passes) was too much for Minnesota.

WEEK ELEVEN

assume co-leadership with the Cowboys in the division.

With Riggins on the sidelines nursing his injured back, Otis Wonsley and rookie Keith Griffin carried Riggins's usual load. Griffin did most of the work, rushing 32 times for 114 yards. Wonsley contributed three touchdowns on short runs.

"I told [Redskins head coach] Joe Gibbs, 'Look, why don't we go with Keith,' " said Riggins, after removing himself from the lineup. " 'If we get into a little trouble, I know there's a phone booth on the sideline, and I'll jump in it and come back out.' "

NFC Central leader Chicago was still another high-flying team brought back to earth, this time by a 29-13 loss to the Rams.

Running back Eric Dickerson knifed through the NFL's top defensive unit for 149 yards and two touchdowns, and the Rams snapped the Bears' three-game winning streak.

According to San Francisco head coach Bill Walsh and the final score, the 49ers traveled to Cleveland with the right emotional attitude for their game with the Browns.

"We were determined to come into Cleveland and play our best game," Walsh said after the 49ers minced the NFL's second-ranked defense 41-7. "This week, I think we've turned to a standard of play that hopefully will carry us to the playoffs."

"We run a lot of gimmickry," said 49ers guard Randy Cross, "but we went to basic football in the second half [netting 28 points]—just right-at-'em stuff. Today we played up to our ability."

Cincinnati kept its faint playoff chances mathematically alive by defeating Pittsburgh 22-20 on running back Larry Kinnebrew's three-yard touchdown run in the final minute of play.

"This team does not like the Pittsburgh Steelers," said Bengals head coach Sam Wyche, whose starting quarterback, Ken Anderson, was forced for the fourth consecutive time to leave a tumultuous game against the Steelers with an injury. "In my short season, I've grown to share those feelings."

Rams running back Eric Dickerson eluded defensive end Richard Dent and the Bears for 149 yards rushing; the Rams ran past Chicago 29-13.

Cincinnati keeps the AFC Central door ajar

STANDINGS

AFC East	W	L	T	NFC East	W	L	T
Miami	11	0	0	Dallas	7	4	0
New England	7	4	0	Washington	7	4	0
N.Y. Jets	6	5	0	N.Y. Giants	6	5	0
Indianapolis	4	7	0	St. Louis	6	5	0
Buffalo	0	11	0	Philadelphia	4	6	1
AFC Central				**NFC Central**			
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	Chicago	7	4	0
Cincinnati	4	7	0	Green Bay	4	7	0
Cleveland	2	9	0	Tampa Bay	4	7	0
Houston	1	10	0	Detroit	3	7	1
AFC West				Minnesota	3	8	0
Denver	10	1	0	**NFC West**			
Seattle	9	2	0	San Francisco	10	1	0
L.A. Raiders	7	4	0	L.A. Rams	7	4	0
Kansas City	5	6	0	New Orleans	5	6	0
San Diego	5	6	0	Atlanta	3	8	0

SCORES

AFC

Cincinnati 22, Pittsburgh 20
Denver 16, San Diego 13
Houston 17, Kansas City 16
Indianapolis 9, N.Y. Jets 5
New England 38, Buffalo 10
Seattle 17, L.A. Raiders 14

NFC

Dallas 24, St. Louis 17
Green Bay 45, Minnesota 17
L.A. Rams 29, Chicago 13
New Orleans 17, Atlanta 13
Tampa Bay 20, N.Y. Giants 17

Interconference

Washington 28, Detroit 14
Miami 24, Philadelphia 23
San Francisco 41, Cleveland 7

NOV. 18 WEEK TWELVE

You can understand why Tampa Bay quarterback Steve DeBerg didn't think it was fair.

"Why did he have to come back *this* week," wondered DeBerg, whose sharp performance (316 yards and two touchdowns passing) still couldn't prevent a 24-17 loss to San Francisco.

"He" was Pro Bowl defensive end Fred Dean, a contract holdout for the first 11 weeks of the season, who rejoined San Francisco just in time to face former 49ers quarterback DeBerg and the Buccaneers. As one 49er put it, that's like adding Carl Lewis to anchor your 400-meter relay team.

Dean contributed several big plays, including a sack of DeBerg to stop a fourth-quarter drive by the Buccaneers that had reached the 49ers' 38.

"I'd say I welcomed myself back into the NFL," Dean said.

Although the 49ers lost Pro Bowl cornerback Ronnie Lott with a shoulder separation, they clinched a playoff spot with the victory.

The Los Angeles Rams, meanwhile, played poorly, committed four turnovers, were penalized 13 times for 109 yards, and didn't help their playoff chances by losing to Green Bay 31-6. However, the win by the Packers, who received three touchdown runs by Eddie Lee Ivery, kept some pressure on first place Chicago in the NFC Central.

The Bears edged Detroit 16-14—and mathematically eliminated the Lions from the Central Division race—on placekicker Bob Thomas's 19-yard field goal with just two seconds left to play.

"It's like living in the Twilight Zone," said Detroit quarterback Gary Danielson after the club's fourth consecutive game without a victory. "The same thing week after week, and it won't go away."

Some of the downtrodden rise up, and four division leaders (including Miami) stumble: just another week in the NFL.

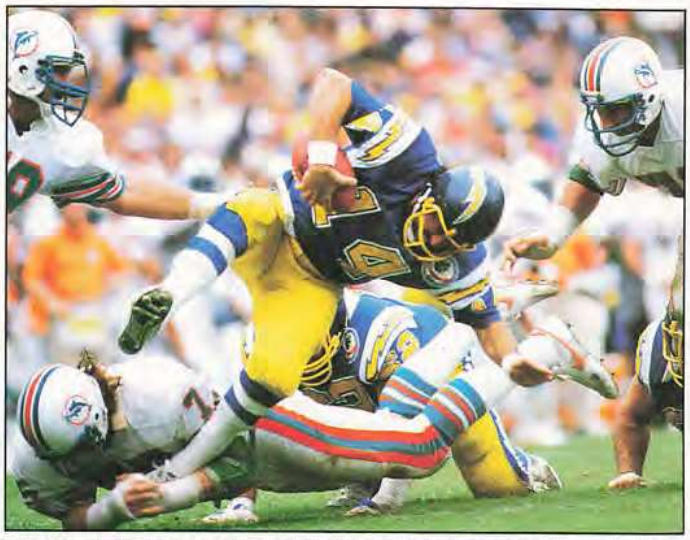
Only in the NFC East could a team lose to an 0-11 opponent and remain in first place. But that's what happened to Dallas, which became Buffalo's first 1984 victim by losing 14-3 at Rich Stadium.

"This is kind of like our Super Bowl," said Bills defensive end Ben Williams, reflecting some of the overdue euphoria in Buffalo.

"How do I feel?" asked Ralph Wilson, the Bills' president and owner. "I feel like we're leading the league."

That's what a victory against Dallas can do for you. The Cow-

Rookie Greg Bell explodes for an 85-yard touchdown run, the longest ever against Dallas, to help the Bills win their first game.



San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts is tripped up by Miami's Doug Betters. Fouts passed for 380 yards to trip up the Dolphins.

NFL forecasting continues to be hazardous

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	11	1	0	Dallas	7	5	0	Houston 31, N.Y. Jets 20
New England	8	4	0	N.Y. Giants	7	5	0	L.A. Raiders 17, Kansas City 7
N.Y. Jets	6	6	0	Washington	7	5	0	New England 50, Indianapolis 17
Indianapolis	4	8	0	St. Louis	6	6	0	San Diego 34, Miami 28 (OT)
Buffalo	1	11	0	Philadelphia	5	6	1	Seattle 26, Cincinnati 6
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	6	6	0	Chicago	8	4	0	Chicago 16, Detroit 14
Cincinnati	4	8	0	Green Bay	5	7	0	Green Bay 31, L.A. Rams 6
Cleveland	3	9	0	Tampa Bay	4	8	0	N.Y. Giants 16, St. Louis 10
Houston	2	10	0	Detroit	3	8	1	Philadelphia 16, Washington 10
AFC West				Minnesota	3	9	0	San Francisco 24, Tampa Bay 17
Denver	11	1	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
Seattle	10	2	0	San Francisco	11	1	0	Buffalo 14, Dallas 3
L.A. Raiders	8	4	0	L.A. Rams	7	5	0	Cleveland 23, Atlanta 7
San Diego	6	6	0	New Orleans	6	6	0	Denver 42, Minnesota 21
Kansas City	5	7	0	Atlanta	3	9	0	New Orleans 27, Pittsburgh 24

boys, despite retaining a share of the NFC East lead, weren't so happy.

"I'm totally embarrassed," said running back Tony Dorsett. "I just can't believe it. It's total humiliation."

"We were the worst team in football today," said defensive tackle John Dutton. "We were the 0-11 team. There's no other way to look at it."

Washington's 16-10 loss at Philadelphia and the New York Giants' 16-10 victory against St. Louis left the Redskins and Giants in a three-way tie for first with Dallas.

"The most disappointing thing," said Redskins running back John Riggins, "is that we all realized what was at stake, and we went out and just played like a bunch of toads."

A revamped defensive strategy by the Giants foiled St. Louis's quick-hitting, deep-strike passing attack. Cardinals quarterback Neil Lomax was intercepted four times, twice by cornerback Mark Haynes and once each by linebackers Gary Reasons and Lawrence Taylor.

"We played a deep drop zone all day," said New York strong safety Bill Currier, "and they weren't ready for it. We didn't blitz once, and we usually blitz a lot against them."

A 35-point first-half by Denver featured four touchdown passes from John Elway, who left the Broncos' 42-21 win over Minnesota midway through the third quarter after throwing his fifth scoring pass of the game, which tied Frank Tripucka's club record set in 1962.

Denver's tenth consecutive victory kept the Broncos a game ahead of the Seahawks, who caused five turnovers and turned back Cincinnati 26-6.

The Raiders halted their three-game losing streak by defeating Kansas City 17-7.

"Any way you measure it [the win], it's a relief, whether it's the Kansas City Chiefs or the Hoboken Tigercats," said Los Angeles strong safety Mike Davis, whose sack of Chiefs quarterback Bill Kenney resulted in a 77-yard fumble return for a touchdown by linebacker Rod Martin.

Some kind of mass relief was felt by the rest of the NFL after Miami at last proved vulnerable at San Diego.

The Chargers rallied from a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit to force overtime, then defeated the Dolphins 34-28 on rookie Buford McGee's 25-yard touchdown run on the first possession of the extra period.

San Diego's true man of the hour, though, was quarterback Dan Fouts, who amazingly found some new San Diego passing records to break.

Fouts's 37 completions and 56 attempts both were new club marks. More important, he finished fourth-quarter scoring drives of 80 and 91 yards with his third and fourth touchdown passes of the day. The final one went three yards to tight end Eric Sievers (who caught 12 on the day, 2 for touchdowns) with just 51 seconds left.

"I can't say enough about Fouts," said Miami head coach Don Shula, whose Dolphins fell one victory short of the all-time record of 17 consecutive regular-season victories held by the Chicago Bears of 1933-34. "He's a great, great competitor. I applaud him for what he did."

"I don't think I've ever been more proud of a team," said Chargers head coach Don Coryell. "We got behind by two touchdowns against one of the best, if not the best team ever, and came back and won it."

Quarterback Tony Eason was sacked six times, but he threw four touchdown passes, including three to tight end Derrick Ramsey in the first half, as the Patriots rolled over the Colts 50-17 at the Hoosier Dome.

Sacks—11 of them by Cleveland—had more of an impact in the Browns' 23-7 victory at Atlanta.

Falcons quarterback Steve Bartkowski was victimized by the marauding Browns 10 times alone for 89 yards lost and also suffered a severe knee injury.

"We have six or seven types of pass protection and used them all," said Atlanta head coach Dan Henning, "but none held up against their rush."

Jack Youngblood's 199th consecutive game set a new Rams record.

NEWSMAKERS

B. Matthews

C. Matthews

Waters

Winston

Havoc: one brother stops it, one causes it

Houston offensive tackle **Bruce Matthews** and Cleveland linebacker **Clay Matthews**—Bruce's older brother—both were instrumental in victories. Bruce, matched against Mark Gastineau, neutralized the Jets' all-pro defensive end, who had only one sack and was not a factor as the Oilers whipped New York 31-20. Clay had three and one-half sacks in the Browns' victory against Atlanta. Rookie **Greg Bell** rushed for 206 yards, including an 85-yard touchdown on Buffalo's first play from scrimmage, and also caught a three-yard scoring pass in the Bills' 14-3 win over Dallas. Tampa Bay wide receiver **Gerald Carter** caught nine passes for 166 yards and one touchdown in the Buccaneers' 24-17 loss to the 49ers. An 89-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by rookie **Andre Waters** provided the winning points as Philadelphia edged Washington 16-10. New Orleans quarterback **Richard Todd** celebrated his thirty-first birthday with two touchdown passes, and teammate **Dennis Winston** returned an interception 47 yards for the winning touchdown as New Orleans stopped Pittsburgh 27-24 on Monday night.

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NOV. 22

WEEK THIRTEEN

To have and have not.

That was the theme this week in the NFC Central, and what Chicago had—a stifling defense—Green Bay had not.

Chicago clinched the division title—its first of any kind since the 1963 championship season—with a buzzsaw defense that allowed only 161 total net yards and carved up the Vikings in a dominating 34-3 victory at the Metrodome.

"This is the greatest feeling I've ever had," said Bears head coach Mike Ditka. "I can't say enough about the defense. But that's what [Chicago defensive coordinator] Buddy Ryan will do to a team.

"We gave the team ball to Virginia [McCaskey, daughter of team founder George Halas], because, somewhere, George is smiling right now, too."

The Bears' opportunity to clinch arose on Thanksgiving Day, before most people around the country had touched either drumstick or cranberry sauce. Detroit, celebrating the revival of its longtime Thanksgiving rivalry with Green Bay, rolled up 518 total yards and defeated the defenseless Packers 31-28. That put the Packers on the brink of elimination. Three days later Chicago pushed them over the edge by defeating the Vikings.

"That was probably the worst sixty minutes of defensive football I've ever seen," said Green Bay head coach Forrest Gregg, after his team's faint playoff hopes had effectively been doused by the Lions.

NEWSMAKERS

Collinsworth

Joiner

Junior

Marino

Charlie Joiner takes his place at the top

Wide receiver **Charlie Joiner** caught six passes to supplant Charley Taylor, who had 649 career receptions, as the NFL's all-time leading receiver. **Dan Marino** threw four touchdown passes in Miami's 28-17 win against the Jets, and tied the record for touchdown passes in a season (36) held jointly by Y.A. Tittle and George Blanda. Defensive end **Howie Long** (two sacks) led a ruinous Raiders pass rush in a 21-7 victory against Indianapolis. Cincinnati wide receiver **Cris Collinsworth** caught touchdown passes of 57 and 20 yards in a 35-14 victory over Atlanta. **Joe Theismann** passed for 311 yards in Washington's 41-14 victory against Buffalo to replace Sonny Jurgensen as the Redskins' all-time passing leader. Wide receiver **Art Monk** had 11 catches in the game to break teammate Charlie Brown's single-season Redskins record of 78 receptions. Quarterback **Paul McDonald** threw three touchdown passes—two to rookie **Brian Brennan**—to lead Cleveland past Houston 27-10. St. Louis linebacker **E.J. Junior** had 17 tackles in a 17-16 victory against Philadelphia.

The NFL's other Thanksgiving offering matched Dallas and New England, neither of whom seemingly could afford a loss. But the Cowboys, coming off their demoralizing defeat at Buffalo, knocked the stuffing out of Patriots quarterback Tony Eason with 10 sacks (three by defensive tackle Randy White) and emerged with a 20-17 victory. Rafael Septien's 23-yard field goal with four seconds left provided the winning points.

New England's loss guaranteed the AFC East championship to Miami, which bolstered its bid for home-field advantage in the playoffs by defeating the New York Jets 28-17 on Monday night.

Pittsburgh moved a step closer to the AFC Central title by burying San Diego 52-24. Quarterback Mark Malone completed 18 of 22 passes for 253 yards and four touchdowns—three to wide receiver John Stallworth. Running back Walter Abercrombie rushed 19 times for 109 yards to lead the Steelers' onslaught on the ground.

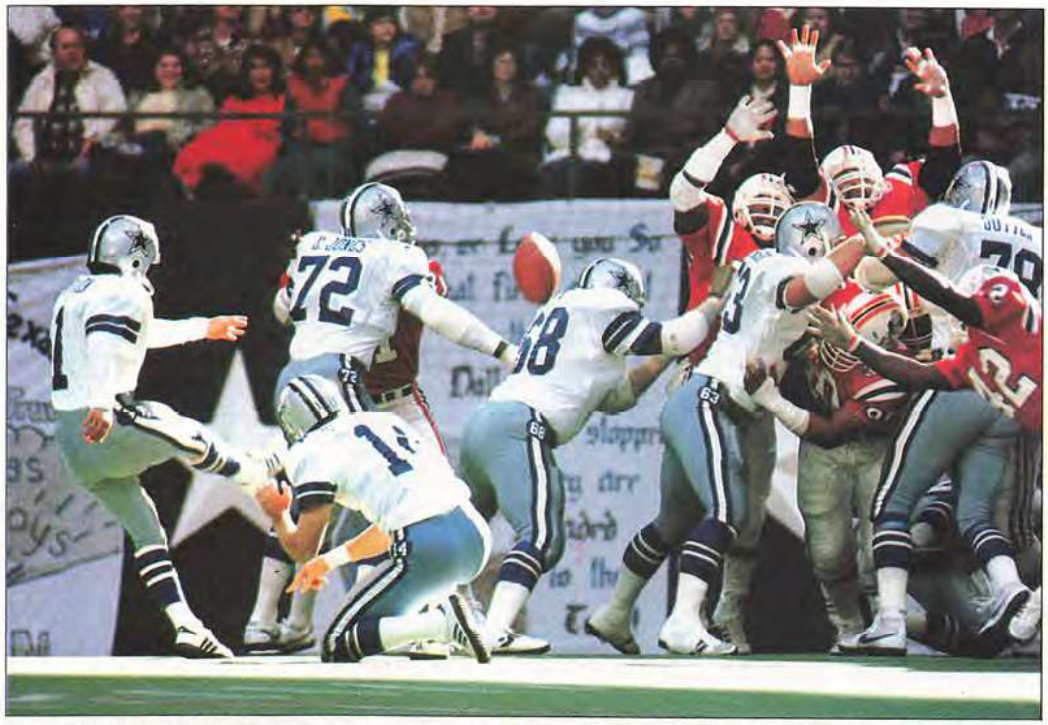
Meanwhile, Cincinnati quarterback Turk Schonert, playing for injured Ken Anderson, kept the Bengals mathematically alive for a playoff berth by completing 20 of his 23 passes for 288 yards and two touchdowns in a 35-14 victory against Atlanta.

In Cleveland Stadium, the Browns made a pleasant about-face on their own turf. After losing their four previous home games, they came up with 27 points—their highest point total of the season—against the Oilers, who managed to score only 10.

Cleveland was in control on both sides of the line of scrim-

Lawrence Taylor (56) and George Martin celebrate the Giants' win.

After a twenty-one-year wait, the Bears win another championship; the Dolphins clinch their third in four years.


Rafael Septien puts the gravy on the turkey for Dallas in its Thanksgiving Day game with New England. His 23-yard field goal with four seconds remaining gave the Cowboys a 20-17 victory.

WEEK THIRTEEN

mage. Quarterback Paul McDonald had his best game of the season, completing 16 of 26 passes for 151 yards and three touchdowns. The whole offense was humming; the Browns converted on 11 of 16 third down situations. Meanwhile, the defense was busy eclipsing Houston quarterback Warren Moon. Moon, who had gone three games without an interception, had two tipped passes picked off (leading to 10 Cleveland points), and was sacked four times.

> **"It's amazing what their offense can do," said Pittsburgh tackle Ray Snell on San Diego's explosive unit. "I was thinking, 'Damn, how many points do we have to score for those sons-of-guns to be out of the game?' You can't relax for a minute because they can score two touchdowns in a minute."**

The Seahawks and Broncos squared off at Mile High Stadium in the week's most intriguing contest. When the Seahawks left Denver, they had a 27-24 victory and a share of first place in the AFC West.

Seattle quarterback Dave Krieg (30 of 44 for 406 yards) set the game's tone on the first play from scrimmage by lofting an 80-yard touchdown bomb to wide receiver Daryl Turner.

That one play opened up the short zones for Seahawks wide receiver Steve Largent, who caught 12 passes for 191 yards—both career highs—and moved past Bobby Mitchell into tenth place on the NFL's all-time reception list.

Although Denver never led, the Broncos caught the Seahawks 10-10 at the half, and 17-17 in the third quarter. In the game's closing minutes they maneuvered close enough for a potential game-tying 25-yard field goal attempt by Rich Karlis with 39 seconds left. But when Karlis's kick hit the right upright, the Broncos no longer had sole possession of the division lead.

There was no shortage of thrilling finishes this week, and the Cardinals, Giants, and Rams all retained playoff pulses with one-point victories.

Not everyone who saw the opening kickoff of the Giants-Chiefs game at the Meadowlands was around for the finish; many in the crowd of 74,383 exited early when the Chiefs took a 27-14 lead midway through the fourth quarter.

"Everybody gave up on us, people in the stands, everybody," said Giants head coach Bill Parcells. "But I've got forty-nine guys who wouldn't quit. It was our finest hour. A great comeback. It took everybody to do it. We did it."

What they did was score twice in the final eight minutes on touchdown passes from quarterback Phil Simms to Bobby Johnson and Zeke Mowatt to win 28-27 and remain in a first-place tie in the NFC East with Dallas and Washington. (Washington was a 41-14 winner over Buffalo.)

St. Louis stayed a game behind the leaders by rallying for a 17-16 victory against Philadelphia.

The Eagles, who trailed 14-6 at the end of three quarters, spurted ahead 16-14 in the fourth quarter on a 16-yard touchdown pass from Joe Pisarcik (who had replaced Ron Jaworski, out with a broken leg) to Mike Quick, and Paul McFadden's 32-yard field goal. But the Cardinals prevailed when Neil O'Donoghue kicked a 44-yard field goal with eight seconds left.

A wild fourth quarter at Tampa Stadium, in which Rams running back Eric Dickerson rushed for 124 of his 191 yards and scored one of his three touchdowns, saw the Rams erase a 26-17 deficit to win 34-33 and hang on to their wild card hopes.

The point that was the difference for the Buccaneers was lost in the first quarter, when Los Angeles defensive end Gary Jeter (just reactivated from injured reserve) blocked an extra point attempt by Obed Ariri.

Art Monk became the Redskins' all-time single-season receiving leader with his career-best 11 catches. His 82 receptions lead the NFL.

Three champions accounted for, three to go

STANDINGS

AFC East	W	L	T	NFC East	W	L	T
Miami	12	1	0	Dallas	8	5	0
New England	8	5	0	N.Y. Giants	8	5	0
N.Y. Jets	6	7	0	Washington	8	5	0
Indianapolis	4	9	0	St. Louis	7	6	0
Buffalo	1	12	0	Philadelphia	5	7	1
AFC Central				**NFC Central**			
Pittsburgh	7	6	0	Chicago	9	4	0
Cincinnati	5	8	0	Green Bay	5	8	0
Cleveland	4	9	0	Detroit	4	8	1
Houston	2	11	0	Tampa Bay	4	9	0
AFC West				Minnesota	3	10	0
Denver	11	2	0	**NFC West**			
Seattle	11	2	0	San Francisco	12	1	0
L.A. Raiders	9	4	0	L.A. Rams	8	5	0
San Diego	6	7	0	New Orleans	6	7	0
Kansas City	5	8	0	Atlanta	3	10	0

SCORES

AFC
Cleveland 27, Houston 10
L.A. Raiders 21, Indianapolis 7
Miami 28, N.Y. Jets 17
Pittsburgh 52, San Diego 24
Seattle 27, Denver 24

NFC
Chicago 34, Minnesota 3
Detroit 31, Green Bay 28
L.A. Rams 34, Tampa Bay 33
St. Louis 17, Philadelphia 16
San Francisco 35, New Orleans 3

Interconference
Cincinnati 35, Atlanta 14
Dallas 20, New England 17
N.Y. Giants 28, Kansas City 27
Washington 41, Buffalo 14

Steve Largent, Seattle's not-so-secret weapon, had the biggest day of his big career against Denver: 12 catches for 191 yards.

Howie Long and the Raiders pass rush collared Art Schlichter.

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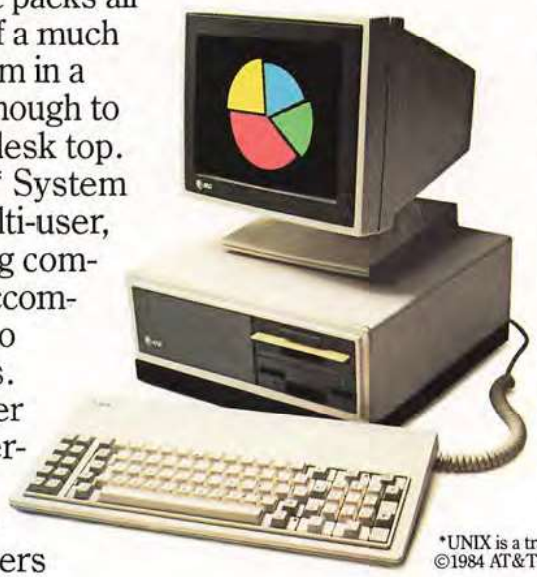

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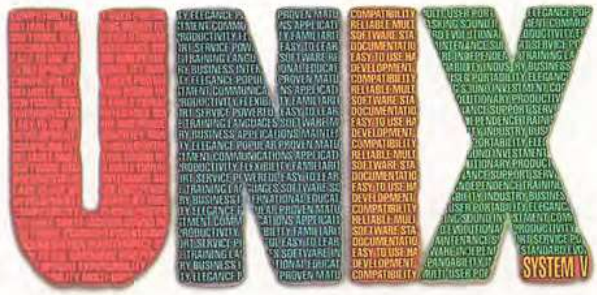

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NOV. 29

WEEK FOURTEEN

Cincinnati was up against the wall, or, more specifically, the goal line, with a possible playoff berth hanging in the balance. The Bengals were on the Cleveland 1-yard line with one second left, trailing 17-10. So naturally, Cincinnati head coach Sam Wyche called a pass play for a receiver he knew he could trust: offensive tackle Anthony Muñoz.

From a tackle eligible formation, Muñoz lined up in the normal tight end spot on the right side of the line and caught a quick touchdown pass from rookie quarterback Boomer Esiason to send the game into overtime. Placekicker Jim Breech won it for the Bengals with a 35-yard field goal at 4:34 of the extra period.

"That was going to be the play if we were down there in a tough, short-yardage, go-for-guts kind of situation," Wyche said.

"I really didn't have much time to think about it," Muñoz said. "Boomer looked at me and said, 'It's coming to you.'"

The victory moved the hot Bengals, winners of 3 of their last 4 games (after winning only 3 of their first 10), to within a game of AFC Central leader Pittsburgh.

The Steelers, unbeaten in six previous overtime tests, lost the NFL's one hundredth overtime game since it adopted the sudden-death procedure in 1974.

The Bengals creep closer to Pittsburgh, Seattle receives a playoff ticket, and three still ride together in the NFC East.

Pittsburgh's third loss in four games occurred when Oilers placekicker Joe Cooper, a second-year law student at the San Joaquin College of Law in Fresno, California, kicked a 30-yard field goal at 5:53 of overtime to give Houston a 23-20 victory.

"I never dreamed this would happen two months ago, when I was laboring over my criminal law books," said Cooper, who had no previous professional experience prior to replacing injured Florian Kempf in Week 10. "But if you want to know what pressure is, my law school starts again on January 2, and I have a final a week later."

Talk about pressure, for the second consecutive game Denver's Rich Karlis found himself on the spot at the end of a game. The Broncos, trailing Kansas City by three points with 10 seconds left, lined up for a potential game-tying field goal attempt by Karlis. But for the second straight week, a goal post stood in his way. After waiting a minute (for a time out) in the wind-chilled four-degree temperature at Arrowhead Stadium, Karlis hit an upright from 42 yards away. The Broncos lost 16-13 to fall a game behind first-place Seattle in the AFC West.

Kansas City's Nick Lowery, who kicked three fourth-quarter field goals, tried to console Karlis after the game. "Don't listen to all the detractors," Lowery said. "You'll have a great season next year.

"I told him I missed two [big] field goals against the Raiders last year," Lowery added.

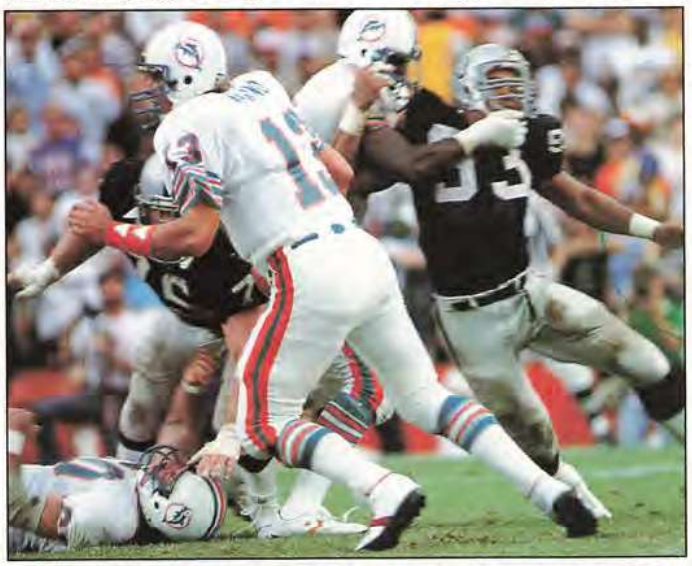
What did Karlis say?

"He didn't say anything. What could he say?"

Quarterback Dave Krieg threw five touchdown passes in Seattle's 38-17 victory against Detroit to help the Seahawks move a game in front of Denver. Earlier in the day, the Seahawks had clinched a playoff berth when New England lost to St. Louis 33-10. But the Seahawks kept a lid on any celebrating.

"Making the playoffs is no big deal," said veteran tight end Charle Young. "We knew we were going to make the playoffs. What we need now is to get the home-field advantage."

Making the playoffs, however, still was the number-one priority in the NFC East, where the three leaders—Dallas, Washington, and the New York Giants—joined St. Louis in the win column.



Dolphins passing wizard Dan Marino conjured up a personal-best 470-yard, four-touchdown game, but couldn't beat the Raiders.

Washington was the first to win. The Redskins soared to a 31-0 halftime lead over Minnesota at the Metrodome on Thursday night and held on to defeat the Vikings 31-17.

Dallas' Tony Dorsett didn't pass up a seventh 1,000-yard season.

With the Redskins already holding a 17-0 advantage, two Washington linemen—offensive tackle Joe Jacoby and defensive tackle Darryl Grant—scored touchdowns on recovered fumbles in the second quarter to inflate the lead to 31 points.

On a day when quarterback Danny White was intercepted four times—twice by Philadelphia safety Wes Hopkins—Dallas relied on its defense to defeat the Eagles 26-10.

Cornerback Dennis Thurman scored one touchdown for the Cowboys on a 38-yard interception return, safety Michael Downs set up a field goal with an interception, and tackle John

NEWSMAKERS

Anderson

Dufek

Jackson

Johnson

Quick-starter Dufek's passes net a victory

Quarterback **Joe Dufek**, replacing Joe Ferguson as the Bills' starter, passed for two first-quarter touchdowns in a 21-15 victory against the Colts. **Ottis Anderson** rushed for 136 yards and one touchdown as St. Louis overpowered New England 33-10. Defensive tackle **Gary Johnson** returned a fumble 33 yards for a touchdown to help the 49ers defeat Atlanta 35-17. Wide receiver **Alfred Jackson** caught 11 passes for 193 yards and a touchdown for the Falcons. San Diego wide receiver **Bobby Duckworth** caught three passes for 185 yards, including a pivotal 88-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter in a 20-7 Monday night victory over Chicago. New Orleans quarterback **Dave Wilson** passed for three touchdowns in a relief role, but **Eric Dickerson** (149 yards) and the Rams beat the Saints 34-21. On a gooey, muddy field at Lambeau Field, Green Bay tight end **Paul Coffman** set up the Packers' tying touchdown against Tampa Bay with a 31-yard fourth-quarter reception. "I enjoy playing in the slop and cold," said Coffman. "It brings everyone down to my speed and quickness."

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POST GAME WRAP~UP.

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WEEK FOURTEEN

Dutton tackled Eagles quarterback Joe Pisarcik in the end zone for a safety. The Cowboys had seven sacks overall, and held Philadelphia to 173 yards of total offense.

And in the battle for New York (and East Rutherford) at Giants Stadium, the "visiting" Giants, with an impressive performance from quarterback Phil Simms, sent the Jets reeling to their sixth consecutive defeat 20-10.

The Dolphins and their fans were left reeling after a 45-34 loss to the not-to-be-denied Los Angeles Raiders at the Orange Bowl.

This was an eagerly anticipated matchup, and it did not disappoint; it was a thrilling affair.

Miami quarterback Dan Marino was characteristically sensational. He passed for 470 yards and four touchdowns, giving him 40 for the season to take sole possession of the single-season touchdown pass record he previously had shared with Y.A. Tittle and George Blanda. But this game, which saw the Dolphins rally from a 24-13 third-quarter deficit to take a 27-24 fourth-quarter lead on a pair of Marino-to-Mark Clayton passes (of 64 and 11 yards), ultimately was decided by the Raiders' ability to make big plays when needed.

Cornerback Mike Haynes made two of the biggest. He intercepted Marino on the Dolphins' first possession and returned the ball 97 yards for a touchdown. Haynes stole another Marino pass in the fourth quarter, and his 54-yard return set up the eventual winning touchdown, a six-yard run by Marcus Allen (156 yards rushing, three touchdowns).

The Raiders, 5-0 against Miami under head coach Tom Flores, also were buoyed by quarterback Marc Wilson's best performance (13 of 24 for 241 yards) since he injured his thumb against the Bears in Week Ten.

"The Raiders proved today they are the best," said Miami head coach Don Shula. "Until someone beats them in the playoffs, they are the champs. This game pointed out more than any other why they are the best, and what we still have to do to be the best."

The sand in the hour glass gets lower

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	12	2	0	Dallas	9	5	0	Buffalo 21, Indianapolis 15
New England	8	6	0	N.Y. Giants	9	5	0	Cincinnati 20, Cleveland 17 (OT)
N.Y. Jets	6	8	0	Washington	9	5	0	Houston 23, Pittsburgh 20 (OT)
Indianapolis	4	10	0	St. Louis	8	6	0	Kansas City 16, Denver 13
Buffalo	2	12	0	Philadelphia	5	8	1	L.A. Raiders 45, Miami 34
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				**NFC**
Pittsburgh	7	7	0	Chicago	9	5	0	Dallas 26, Philadelphia 10
Cincinnati	6	8	0	Green Bay	6	8	0	Green Bay 27, Tampa Bay 14
Cleveland	4	10	0	Detroit	4	9	1	L.A. Rams 34, New Orleans 21
Houston	3	11	0	Tampa Bay	4	10	0	San Francisco 35, Atlanta 17
AFC West				Minnesota	3	11	0	Washington 31, Minnesota 17
Seattle	12	2	0	**NFC West**				**Interconference**
Denver	11	3	0	San Francisco	13	1	0	N.Y. Giants 20, N.Y. Jets 10
L.A. Raiders	10	4	0	L.A. Rams	9	5	0	St. Louis 33, New England 10
San Diego	7	7	0	New Orleans	6	8	0	San Diego 20, Chicago 7
Kansas City	6	8	0	Atlanta	3	11	0	Seattle 38, Detroit 17

On a tackle-eligible goal-line play, Cincinnati's Anthony Muñoz makes a big target—and a big catch—in a critical situation.

DEC. 8 WEEK FIFTEEN

Goodbye, 2,003. Hello (for one week, anyway), 2,007.

Eric Dickerson did not gain 2,000 yards in 14 games, as former single-season record-holder O.J. Simpson did in 1973. But it didn't take him 16, either.

And like Simpson, who rushed for exactly 200 yards against the New York Jets in the final game of the 1973 season, when he eclipsed the record previously held by Jim Brown (1,863 yards), Dickerson rewrote the record in style.

Walter Payton's debut at quarterback was valiant, but not succesful.

Buffalo guard Jim Ritcher shows the strain of the Bills' 2-13 record.

In the Los Angeles Rams' fifteenth game of the season (a 27-16 victory against Houston), the sensational second-year running back rushed for 215 yards—the best day of his NFL career—to break Simpson's 11-year-old NFL mark.

With 3:30 left in the game, Dickerson swept right for nine yards to officially vault past Simpson.

"There was no need to say anything [in the huddle before the play]," said Rams quarterback Jeff Kemp, "but there was a special feeling as far as anticipation...wanting to make it happen. It was fun to hand off, watch him get it, and then watch the line kind of puff up with pride."

"I'm usually trying to bury the guy I'm blocking on that play," said tackle Bill Bain, the biggest member (6 feet 4 inches, 290 pounds) of the Rams' elephantine offensive line. "But this time, I just hit the guy to get him out of the way so I would have a chance to watch Eric get the record. I screamed and screamed and screamed. I hadn't been that excited since my daughter was born."

How did Dickerson feel?

"I'm just glad it's over," he said. "I got so tired of hearing about it, and people asking me about the record. I even started dreaming about it.

"Realistically, I thought I would end up with 170 or 180, but the line kept blocking...I wasn't going to run and just fall down."

O.J.'s rushing record falls; so do the Cowboys and Giants, while Kansas City is an AFC West giant killer (again).

Two other Pro Bowl-bound (along with Dickerson) NFC running backs, Chicago's Walter Payton and Tampa Bay's James Wilder, also had big days this week.

Wilder rushed for 125 yards in Tampa Bay's 23-6 victory against Atlanta, and Payton gained 175 yards on the ground in the Bears' 20-14 loss to Green Bay. Payton also played briefly at quarterback. He completed one of four passes for a two-yard touchdown, but threw an interception as well.

The Los Angeles Raiders, who defeated Detroit 24-3 at the Silverdome, wrapped up the re-

WEEK FIFTEEN

maining AFC wild card playoff berth. Actually, they had wrapped it up a day earlier when New England, the other wild card contender, lost 27-17 at Philadelphia—the Patriots' third loss in three weeks to three NFC East opponents.

"It seems we went downhill so fast," said Patriots cornerback Raymond Clayborn. "We wanted it so much. We played well for twelve weeks, but the last three weeks it slipped away."

Washington moved a game ahead of the pack in the NFC East by defeating Dallas 30-28 at Texas Stadium. But it wasn't easy.

Dallas quarterback Danny White passed for 327 yards and four touchdowns, and the Cowboys' defense, utilizing a stacked secondary on early downs and unveiling new blitzing schemes, crossed up the Redskins for much of the game. They sacked Washington quarterback Joe Theismann eight times and batted down four of his passes at the line of scrimmage.

"We had to scramble, scramble, scramble," said Washington head coach Joe Gibbs. "The whole game was an attempt to adjust and catch up to what they were doing. Even after we adjusted, they were beating us individually. They were roaring."

The Cowboys roared to a 21-6 halftime lead. But in the end, Washington running back John Riggins punctured the Cowboys' well-laid plans.

Riggins, who had carried the ball only three times in Washington's two previous games and was in traction earlier in the week with his continuing back woes, gained 111 yards rushing on 24 carries and scored the winning touchdown on a one-yard run midway through the fourth quarter.

St. Louis, on the brink of elimination from playoff contention, climbed back into the race by dispatching the Giants 31-21 and creating a three-way tie for second place (among the Cowboys, Giants, and Cardinals) behind the Redskins.

"We've got our confidence up. We can still do it," said St. Louis quarterback Neil Lomax, who completed 23 of 33 passes for 305 yards to become the sixth quarterback in NFL history to pass for more than 4,000 yards in a season. "We've had some problems, but there's one more game to go, and we're still in it."

Despite the loss, the Giants remained in it too—but they weren't very happy about their lot.

"It's very unfortunate," said Giants running back Joe Morris, who led all rushers with 107 yards on 16 carries. "We had control of our destiny, and now we have to wait for others to help us."

Seattle's destiny took a turn down the wrong path in Kansas City, where the Chiefs, playing AFC West spoiler for the second straight week, knocked off the Seahawks 34-7.

The Chiefs intercepted Seattle quarterback Dave Krieg five times and backup Jim Zorn once to halt the Seahawks' eight-game winning streak.

Denver capitalized on Seattle's stumble and regained a share of the AFC West lead by defeating San Diego 16-13.

Broncos placekicker Rich Karlis was perfect on three field goal attempts. And, this week, when the game was riding on his leg, his 28-yard kick with 2:08 left stayed between the uprights for the victory.

Pittsburgh placekicker Gary Anderson's foot also was the difference in the Steelers' 23-20 victory against Cleveland. Anderson's third field goal of the game, a 34-yarder with just five seconds remaining, kept the Steelers one game in front of Cincinnati.

But the Bengals, by edging New Orleans 24-21, kept the heat on the Steelers.

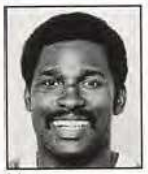
Quarterback Ken Anderson, who missed the previous three games with a shoulder separation, came off the bench to complete 18 of 26 passes for 191 yards and two touchdowns.

When told he looked like "the Anderson of old," the 35-year-old, 14-year veteran replied, "I *am* old."

With a 215-yard day, the Rams' Eric Dickerson rushed past O.J. Simpson in the NFL record book—and past the Oilers in Anaheim Stadium.

NEWSMAKERS

Montana



Montgomery

Pickel

Smith

Dickerson got some help from his friends

Eric Dickerson couldn't have broken the NFL single-season rushing record this week against Houston without center **Doug Smith**, guards **Dennis Harrah** and **Kent Hill**, and tackles **Irv Pankey** and **Bill Bain**, the starting interior linemen for the Los Angeles Rams. Playing what San Francisco head coach Bill Walsh said was his greatest game yet, quarterback **Joe Montana** completed 15 of 21 passes for 245 yards, three touchdowns, and no interceptions as the 49ers overwhelmed Minnesota 51-7. Nose tackle **Bill Pickel** had three and one-half sacks in the Raiders' 24-3 Monday night victory at Detroit. All four of quarterback **Dan Marino's** touchdown passes came in the second half as Miami rallied from a 17-7 halftime deficit to beat the Colts 35-17. Philadelphia running back **Wilbert Montgomery** rushed for 100 yards—his first 100-yard performance in his last 33 games—in the Eagles' 27-17 victory against New England. In Kansas City's 34-7 upset of AFC West leader Seattle, rookie linebacker **Scott Radecic** returned one of the Chiefs' six interceptions 19 yards for a touchdown.

"I don't know when a man has been as ready to play a game as he was," said John Robinson, after Eric Dickerson had broken the single-season rushing record. "The look in his eyes was fierce. Whenever he doesn't do something unbelievable you're disappointed. He's just, uh, *pretty good*."

The scoreboard clock winds down

STANDINGS

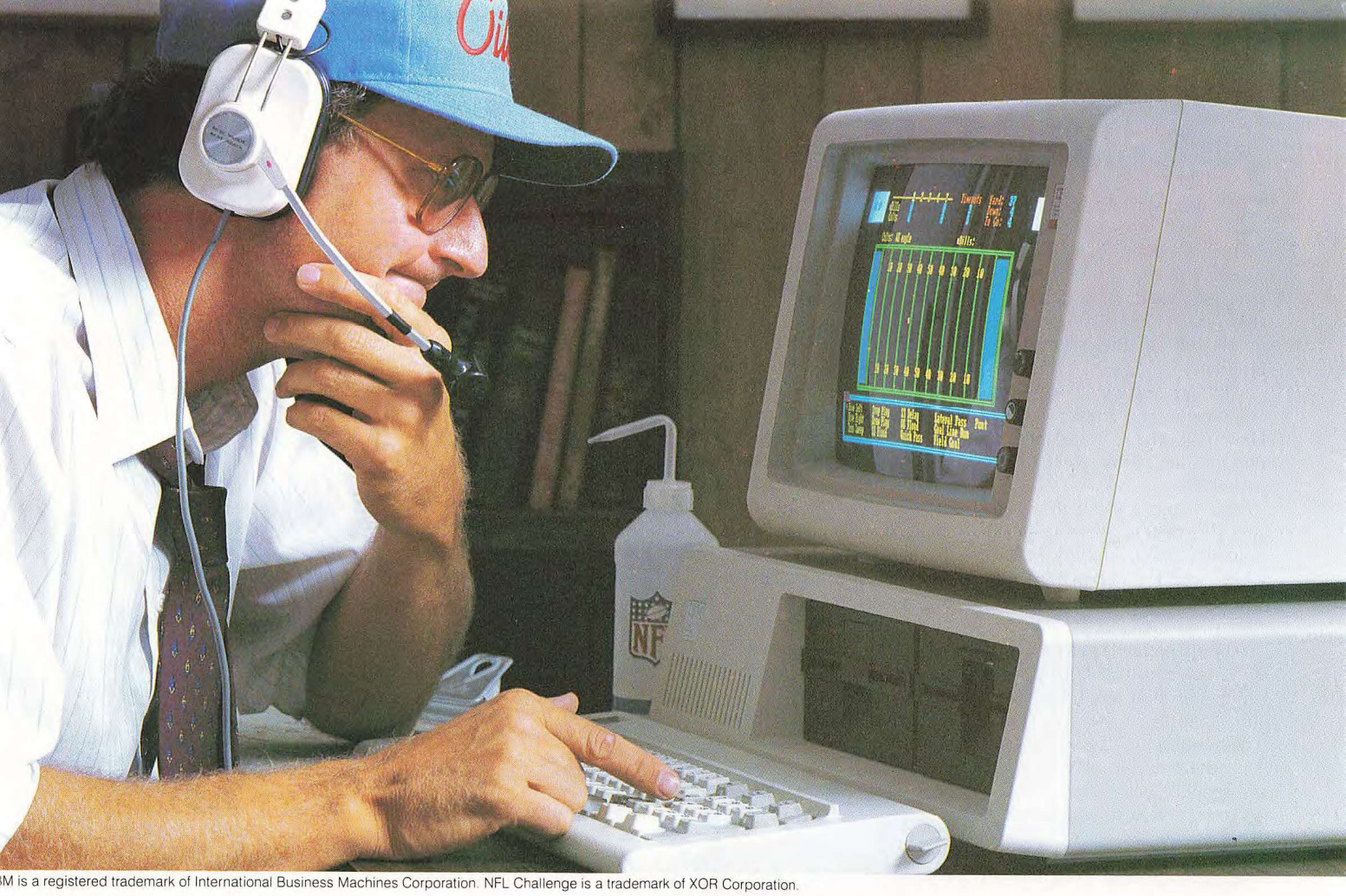
AFC East	W	L	T	NFC East	W	L	T
Miami	13	2	0	Washington	10	5	0
New England	8	7	0	Dallas	9	6	0
N.Y. Jets	7	8	0	N.Y. Giants	9	6	0
Indianapolis	4	11	0	St. Louis	9	6	0
Buffalo	2	13	0	Philadelphia	6	8	1
AFC Central				**NFC Central**			
Pittsburgh	8	7	0	Chicago	9	6	0
Cincinnati	7	8	0	Green Bay	7	8	0
Cleveland	4	11	0	Tampa Bay	5	10	0
Houston	3	12	0	Detroit	4	10	1
AFC West				Minnesota	3	12	0
Denver	12	3	0	**NFC West**			
Seattle	12	3	0	San Francisco	14	1	0
L.A. Raiders	11	4	0	L.A. Rams	10	5	0
Kansas City	7	8	0	New Orleans	6	9	0
San Diego	7	8	0	Atlanta	3	12	0

SCORES

AFC
Denver 16, San Diego 13
Kansas City 34, Seattle 7
Miami 35, Indianapolis 17
N.Y. Jets 21, Buffalo 17
Pittsburgh 23, Cleveland 20

NFC
Green Bay 20, Chicago 14
St. Louis 31, N.Y. Giants 21
San Francisco 51, Minnesota 7
Tampa Bay 23, Atlanta 6
Washington 30, Dallas 28

Interconference
Cincinnati 24, New Orleans 21
L.A. Raiders 24, Detroit 3
L.A. Rams 27, Houston 16
Philadelphia 27, New England 17



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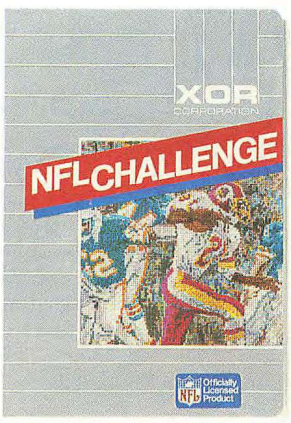

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DEC. 14

WEEK SIXTEEN

There were almost too many "ifs" to keep straight in the NFC East in the final weekend of the season. Considering the frenetic state of the division race for the first 15 weeks of the season, that seemed appropriate.

All four contenders—Dallas, Washington, St. Louis, and the New York Giants—had playoff possibilities, *if* the right things happened.

The Giants and all their fans spent the final weekend in an extended 72-hour anxiety attack. That's what happens in the nerve-wracking game of wild card roulette.

The agonizing began on Saturday, after the Giants had dropped an uninspired 10-3 decision at home to New Orleans. That result actually was meaningless as far as the playoffs were concerned; the Giants' postseason itinerary hinged on the outcome of the Washington-St. Louis game on Sunday and the Dallas-Miami game on Monday night. But the loss didn't exactly put the team (or head coach Bill Parcells) in a cheery mood.

"This loss hurt more than any other," Parcells said. "This game wasn't meaningless to me."

"Harry Carson called a team meeting before the game," said Giants defensive end George Martin. "He sensed we were a little flat. And as flat as we were the last two weeks, very little positive can come of it—even if we do make the playoffs. This is a dismal end to the season."

But the season wasn't over. On Sunday, Washington defeated St. Louis 29-27 in a harrowing game that ended when Cardinals placekicker Neil O'Donoghue's last-gasp 50-yard field goal attempt as the clock ran out sailed to the left. In New York, Giants players and coaches joyously waved O'Donoghue's kick wide in front of their television screens.

Washington's victory gave the Redskins their third consecutive NFC East championship—and stayed elimination for the Giants for at least one more day.

Next the Giants had to root for the Dolphins to defeat—and eliminate—Dallas on Monday night. That was second nature to the Giants' players.

"Rooting against Dallas is easy," said defensive end Casey Merrill. "It's a lot easier than rooting for Washington."

Watching the Monday night game, however, couldn't have been too easy, especially when the Cowboys, losing 21-14 late in the fourth quarter, drew even on a stunning tipped-pass play. Dallas quarterback Danny White aimed a pass at running back Tony Dorsett, but Miami cornerback Don McNeal tipped it into the hands of Cowboys wide receiver Tony Hill, who completed a 66-yard touchdown play that tied the score with only 1:47 left in the game.

The Giants and Rams lose but live to play again, Pittsburgh survives its scare, and silence is golden for Denver.

But not even Dallas's own version of an Immaculate Reception could save the Cowboys on this night, or this year.

In the final minute of play, (just 58 seconds later), Miami quarterback Dan Marino rifled a 63-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Mark Clayton who caught it cutting over the middle as two Dallas defenders slipped. Miami won 28-21, and Dallas was out of the playoffs for the first time since 1974—and only the second time in 20 years.

The Cowboys, Cardinals, and Giants all finished with identical 9-7 records, but the Giants (who beat Dallas twice) earned a playoff berth by virtue of a better record within the division.

"I don't think we're backing in," said nose tackle Jim Burt. "Maybe the people who say we backed in are the same people who predicted we wouldn't win five games the whole year."

The Giants' wild card opponents, the Los Angeles Rams, had closed their regular season on Friday night with a 19-16 loss at San Francisco. Like the Giants, the Rams then had to play the waiting game. Their wait was shorter than New York's; they qualified when the Cardinals lost.

Quarterback Joe Montana fired eight consecutive completions, including two touchdown passes, in the first quarter to give the 49ers an early 14-3 lead.

The Rams rallied, and drew to within one point (17-16) before the 49ers' defense, which held running back Eric Dickerson to 98 yards rushing (he finished with a season total of 2,105), took over in the game's closing minutes. Defensive end Lawrence Pillers blocked a field goal attempt by Mike Lansford, and tackle Gary Johnson sacked quarterback Jeff Kemp in the end zone for a safety to clinch the 49ers' record-setting fifteenth regular-season victory.

"This team has great chemistry," said San Francisco head coach Bill Walsh. "They know what it takes to win, and they know each game has meaning."

"We'll come out smokin' in

Phil Simms and the Giants hit the wall against the Saints.

"Art could catch a BB in the dark if he heard the gun go off," said Washington Redskins receivers coach Charley Taylor (the second-leading NFL receiver of all time) about Art Monk, who set a new NFL single-season receiving record. "That's how much confidence I have in the man."

All the Bills could do was duck as the Bengals bombed them 52-21. But the lopsided victory wasn't enough to get Cincinnati into the playoffs.

Standings (and tiebreakers) tell the story

STANDINGS								SCORES
AFC East	**W**	**L**	**T**	**NFC East**	**W**	**L**	**T**	**AFC**
Miami	14	2	0	Washington	11	5	0	Cincinnati 52, Buffalo 21
New England	9	7	0	N.Y. Giants	9	7	0	Cleveland 27, Houston 20
N.Y. Jets	7	9	0	Dallas	9	7	0	Denver 31, Seattle 14
Indianapolis	4	12	0	St. Louis	9	7	0	Kansas City 42, San Diego 21
Buffalo	2	14	0	Philadelphia	6	9	1	New England 16, Indianapolis 10
AFC Central				**NFC Central**				Pittsburgh 13, L.A. Raiders 7
Pittsburgh	9	7	0	Chicago	10	6	0	**NFC**
Cincinnati	8	8	0	Green Bay	8	8	0	Atlanta 26, Philadelphia 10
Cleveland	5	11	0	Tampa Bay	6	10	0	Chicago 30, Detroit 13
Houston	3	13	0	Detroit	4	11	1	Green Bay 38, Minnesota 14
AFC West				Minnesota	3	13	0	New Orleans 10, N.Y. Giants 3
Denver	13	3	0	**NFC West**				San Francisco 19, L.A. Rams 16
Seattle	12	4	0	San Francisco	15	1	0	Washington 29, St. Louis 27
L.A. Raiders	11	5	0	L.A. Rams	10	6	0	**Interconference**
Kansas City	8	8	0	New Orleans	7	9	0	Miami 28, Dallas 21
San Diego	7	9	0	Atlanta	4	12	0	Tampa Bay 41, N.Y. Jets 21

NEWSMAKERS

Byner

Landry

Lomax

Monk

The NFL record book takes a beating

Concluding an NFL campaign that was open season on the record book, Washington wide receiver **Art Monk** set a new NFL single-season record for receptions in the Redskins' 29-27 win against St. Louis. Monk caught 11 passes for 136 yards (and two touchdowns) and finished with 106 catches—five more than Charley Hennigan's record of 101 set in 1964. Quarterback **Neil Lomax** (37 of 46, 468 yards, two touchdowns) starred in defeat for the Cardinals. Miami wide receiver **Mark Clayton** caught three touchdown passes to give him 18 for the season, another NFL record. Teammate **Dan Marino** finished the season with 48 touchdown passes, 361 completions, and 5,084 yards passing—all new NFL records. Rookie running back **Earnest Byner** had a career-high 188 yards rushing to help Cleveland defeat Houston 27-20. Quarterback **Greg Landry**, playing in his first NFL game in almost three years, passed for one touchdown and ran for another to lead Chicago past Detroit 30-13. The Bears' defense sacked Detroit quarterbacks 12 times to give Chicago 72 for the season, breaking the NFL record of 67 set by the 1967 Raiders.

the playoffs,'' Montana promised.

Denver quarterback John Elway came out bombing against Seattle, and the Broncos smoked the Seahawks 31-14 to wrap up the AFC West championship.

The Denver players had been equipped before the game with $50 state-of-the-art ear plugs to block out the din created by the Seahawks' raucous fans at the Kingdome. Then they took other measures to ensure they wouldn't need them.

''I think everybody went without them in the first series,'' said Elway, ''to see if they could hear without them.''

The ear plugs became academic after Elway launched a 73-yard pass to wide receiver Steve Watson less than three minutes into the game, prefacing a one-yard touchdown dive by Elway.

''It didn't get too loud after that,'' said running back Sammy Winder.

Elway's final stats (9 of 21 for 148 yards) included four interceptions, and paled in comparison to Seattle quarterback Dave Krieg's figures (30 of 50, 334 yards, two touchdowns). In fact, Denver was outgained in total yardage 385-291. But penalties, special teams miscues, and poor field position wrecked the Seahawks and left them to regroup for a wild card date against the Raiders.

Cincinnati, sparked by quarterback Ken Anderson's three first-half touchdown passes, increased the pressure on Pittsburgh in the AFC Central by blasting Buffalo 52-21 for its eighth victory in 11 games.

The Steelers proved equal to the task later in the day in Los Angeles. Running back Walter Abercrombie rushed 28 times for 111 yards and set up Pittsburgh's only touchdown (a one-yard plunge by running back Frank Pollard on the initial play of the fourth quarter) with a 59-yard reception. Safety Donnie Shell intercepted two passes, including one with 2:24 left to snuff out a final threat by the Raiders. The Steelers won the game—and the AFC Central title—13-7.

That was it as far as games affecting the playoffs.

Tampa Bay running back James Wilder netted 163 yards in rushing and receiving yardage (to finish 15 yards behind new NFL record-holder Eric Dickerson) and scored two touchdowns to lead the Buccaneers to a 41-21 victory against the New York Jets. John McKay put the victory in perspective after his final game as the team's head coach.

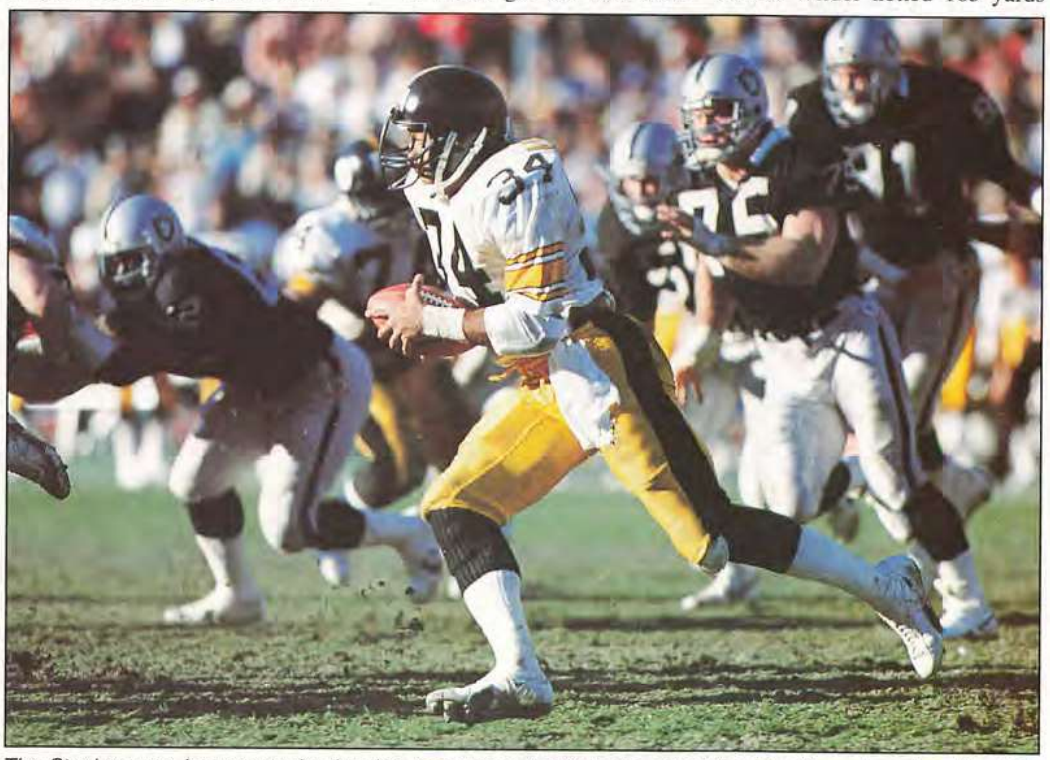
''I leave as I came, a controversial man,'' said McKay, who drew criticism for allowing his defense to let the Jets score late in the game, so Wilder would have a last attempt to surpass Dickerson's total. ''I'm sorry about the furor, but what could I do? Somebody was sure to walk away angry, the Jets or our players and Tampa Bay fans. If I had a choice to make, I'd rather have them mad at me in New York than here in the town where I live and work.''

The 49ers held Eric Dickerson to 98 yards; the Rams lost 19-16.

Minnesota's 38-14 loss to Green Bay turned out to be first-year head coach Les Steckel's final game. Steckel, whose team finished 3-13, was fired less than 24 hours later (subsequently replaced by Bud Grant).

Third-string quarterback Dave Archer completed 12 of 18 passes for 197 yards, and Mick Luckhurst kicked four field goals as Atlanta halted a nine-game losing streak by beating Philadelphia 26-10.

Rejuvenated Kansas City finished its season with a three-game winning surge by defeating San Diego 42-21. Bill Kenney's 245 yards and three touchdowns passing in slightly more than one half of play were too much for the Chargers, who wound up losing all eight of their games against AFC West opponents this year.


The Steelers won in a must-win situation to squeeze the Bengals out of the playoffs and capture the AFC Central Division title. Running back Walter Abercrombie (34) contributed 111 yards on 28 carries.

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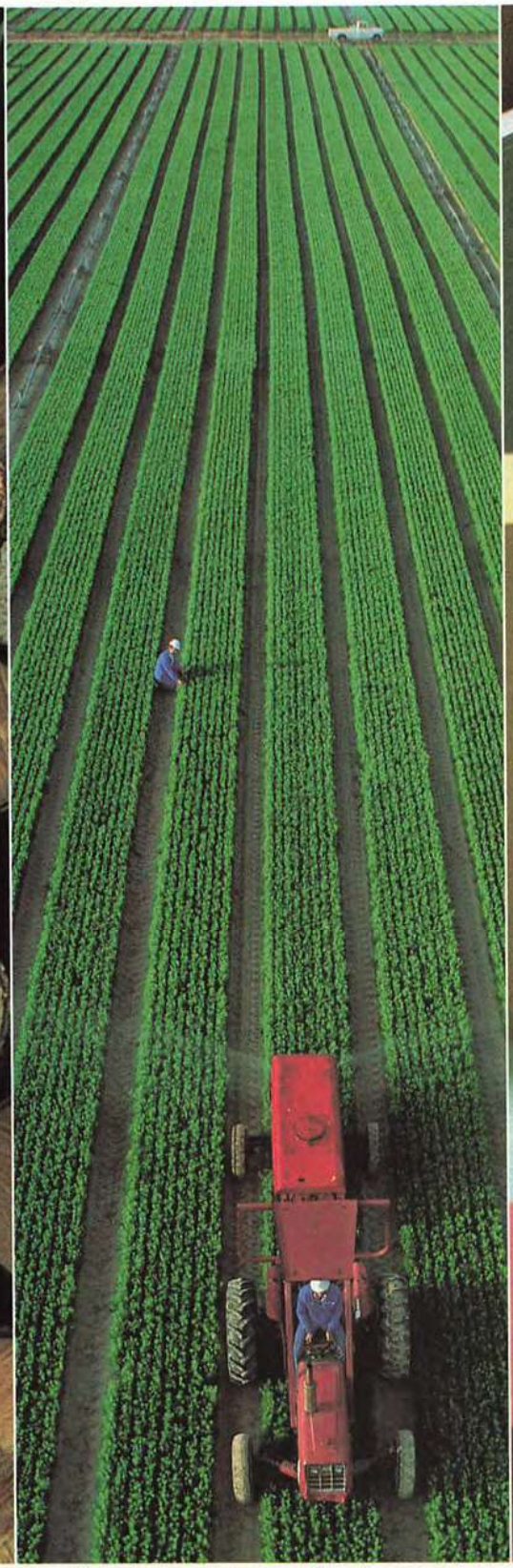

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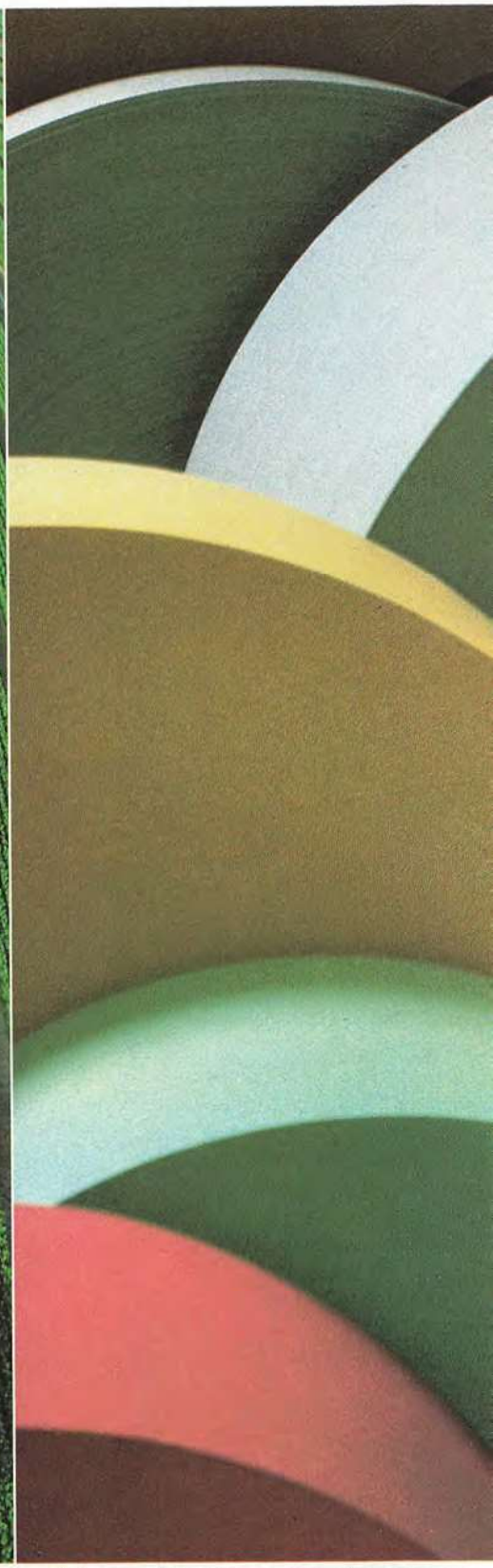

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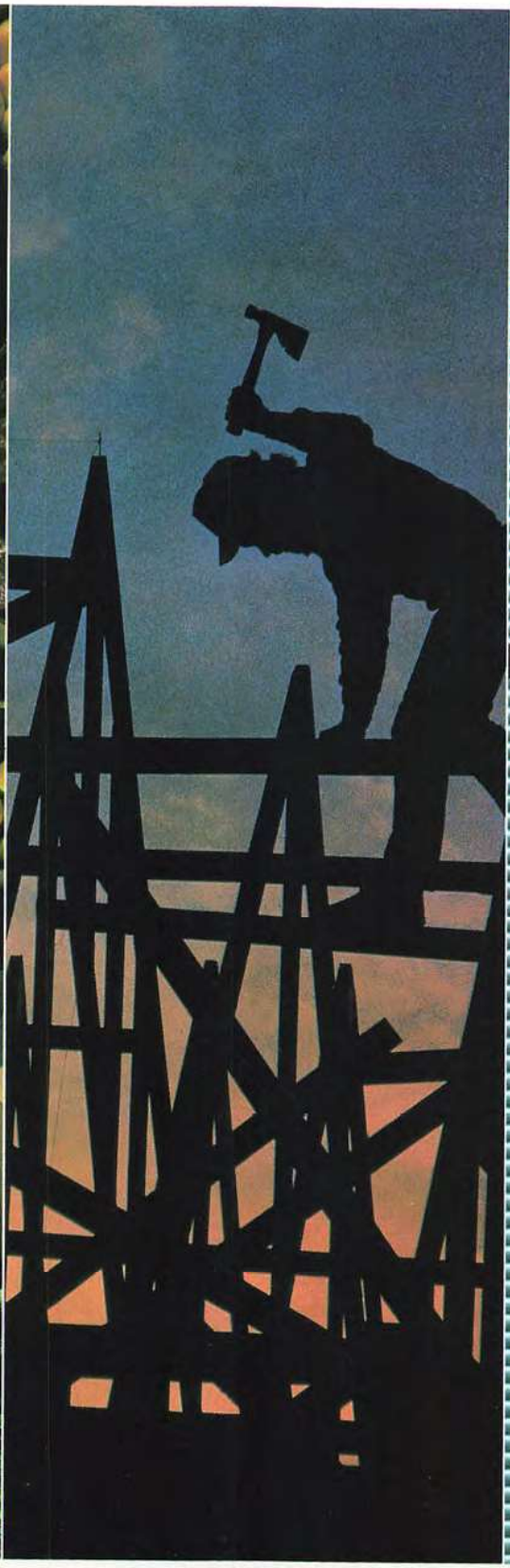

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TODAY'S CHEVROLET

DEC. 23

WEEK SEVENTEEN

The Seahawks are winners with an offense from yesteryear, and the Rams are losers with little offense of any kind.

SEATTLE 13, L.A. RAIDERS 7

The turning point came before the game ever started—when Seattle coach Chuck Knox decided to attack the Raiders' defense not with his record-setting passing attack, but with a ground game that had ranked twenty-fifth in the NFL during the regular season.

Raiders defensive end Howie Long (75) grabs nothing but air as Dan Doornink slashes by him in Seattle's 13-7 victory.

"He was doing things that, in looking at films, we hadn't seen him do all year," said Raiders defensive end Howie Long after Seattle's Dan Doornink ran for 126 yards. "We're not talking about O.J. Simpson and Marcus Allen here. We're talking about Dan Doornink."

The strategy—and the Seahawks' execution of it—must have caught the Raiders off balance. With Dave Krieg throwing only 10 passes (and completing only 4), the Seahawks dominated the Raiders on the ground, rushing for 205 yards and keeping the ball for 35 minutes.

Seattle built a 13-0 lead in the fourth quarter behind a 26-yard touchdown pass from Krieg to Daryl Turner and two field goals by Norm Johnson. The catch by Turner was the only one by a Seattle wide receiver all day, marking the first game since 1977 in which Steve Largent hadn't caught a pass.

The chief yardage-and-time-eater for the Seahawks was running back Dan Doornink, who had the best game of his career, carrying 29 times for 126 yards. Doornink and teammate David Hughes (54 yards) continually ran off-tackle, cut back against the grain, and left the Raiders' linemen flat-footed.

Meanwhile, Seattle's defense was pressuring Raiders quarterback Jim Plunkett, who was sacked six times and intercepted twice in his first start in 10 weeks.

Plunkett did throw a 46-yard touchdown pass to Marcus Allen, but it came with five minutes left. That was way too late in the game given the way the Seahawks were controlling the ball. They almost ran out the clock on their next possession, and then intercepted Plunkett in the final seconds.

Los Angeles	0	0	0	7	— 7
Seattle	0	7	3	3	—13

Sea —Turner 26 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)
Sea —FG Johnson 35
Sea —FG Johnson 44
LA —Allen 46 pass from Plunkett (Bahr kick)
Attendance—62,049

N.Y. GIANTS 16, L.A. RAMS 13

Los Angeles seemed to be holding all the cards going into the game. The Rams had whipped the Giants 33-12 in the regular season, and were playing the NFC Wild Card Game at home in Anaheim. This time the Rams' defense held the Giants to 40 yards rushing (on 27 carries) and sacked quarterback Phil Simms four times. But the Giants' made the key plays, both offensively (Simms completed 22 of 31 passes) and defensively. The Giants limited Los Angeles to a field goal after the Rams had a first-and-goal in the fourth quarter, and then stopped them on downs late in the game to win 16-13.

"I look at it this way," said Rams defensive end Jack Youngblood. "If the offense scores thirteen points, it's our responsibility to hold 'em to twelve. Our offense scored enough points to win. We just allowed them to score enough to beat us."

The Rams defense had more to worry about than the Giants—the Los Angeles offense contributed to some of New York's points. In the first quarter, Eric Dickerson fumbled (as he had an NFL-leading 12 times in the regular season), with the Giants recovering the ball on the Rams' 23-yard line. Nine plays later, Rob Carpenter scored from the 1 to put New York ahead 10-0.

Los Angeles's offense was also plagued with penalties (10 for 75 yards) and inconsistency. Dickerson netted 107 yards and scored the Rams' only touchdown on a 14-yard third-quarter blast, but he was shut down in the first half, when the Rams found themselves trailing 10-0 before they even had made a first down. The rest of the Rams' rushing attack netted zero yards, and quarterback Jeff Kemp threw for only 109 on 11 completions.

Ali Haji-Sheikh kicks one of his three field goals in the Giants' win.

"We played just well enough to win," Carpenter said. "But we can overcome adversity. I don't think anyone will give us a chance against the 49ers, either."

New York	10	0	6	0	—16
Los Angeles	0	3	7	3	—13

NY —FG Haji-Sheikh 37
NY —Carpenter 1 run (Haji-Sheikh kick)
LA —FG Lansford 38
NY —FG Haji-Sheikh 39
LA —Dickerson 14 run (Lansford kick)
NY —FG Haji-Sheikh 36
LA —FG Lansford 22
Attendance—67,037

On fourth down, the Giants force Los Angeles quarterback Jeff Kemp to fumble, ending the Rams' last threat of the game.

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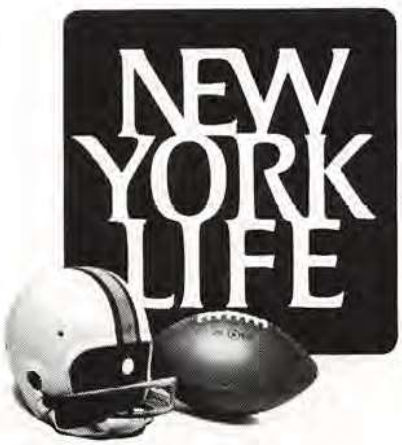

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DEC. 29

WEEK EIGHTEEN

MIAMI 31, SEATTLE 10

In the NFL equivalent of "Same Time Next Year," the Seahawks flew to Miami, following an impressive steamrolling of the Raiders in last week's AFC Wild Card Game. Seattle looked as if it might have a chance to do the same to the Dolphins' swift scoring machine

> **"They took us out of our game plan," said Seattle's Steve Largent, who caught six passes for 128 yards, including a 56-yard touchdown, against Miami. "Every point they scored put that much more pressure on us. They wouldn't let us do the things we needed to do to win."**

(as it did last year), but instead of grinding out another win, the Seahawks just seemed to grind to a halt.

"They stopped everything we tried," said Seattle quarterback Dave Krieg, who had to revert to the passing game, completing 20 of 35 against Miami after throwing only 10 passes last week.

"We saw what they did against the Raiders," said Dolphins nose tackle Bob Baumhower. "The first two plays they tried to run the same thing against us, and we stuffed 'em. We were ready."

The Miami offense was ready, too, although quarterback Dan Marino (21 of 34 for 262 yards, three touchdowns, and two interceptions) has looked sharper. Using running back Tony Nathan (18 carries for 76 yards and one touchdown, plus four catches for 20 yards) to keep the Seahawks off balance, Marino got the ball to his game-breaking receivers when he had to. Mark Clayton caught five for 75 yards, including a spectacular 33-yard touchdown; Mark Duper caught three for 32; tight end Bruce Hardy also caught three for 48 yards and a touchdown.

The scores by Hardy and Clayton, on consecutive third-quarter drives, put Seattle away. Up until then, the Dolphins had a big statistical edge but only a 14-10 lead. On Miami's first possession of the second half (following Norm Johnson's missed 41-yard field goal attempt), Marino began sprinkling passes liberally throughout his receiving corps—and the Seahawks' secondary. His third-and-goal pass from the Seattle 3 was batted down by Jacob Green. However, cornerback Keith Simpson was called for holding in the end zone and the Dolphins got another set of downs. Marino then hit Hardy for three yards and a score.

The Dolphins' occasionally maligned defense held firm on the next series, pressuring Seattle into a seven-yard punt. Marino got the ball back at the Seahawks' 33. On the second play he passed to Clayton in the end zone, who tipped the ball to himself (and away from Simpson) for a commanding 28-10 lead.

"The pass I threw to Clayton was a bad decision," Marino said. "But he's such a great athlete that even on balls you force he still makes the catch."

Miami defensive end Doug Betters celebrates the victory over Seattle. The Dolphins gave up only one touchdown and batted down four passes.

Seattle	0	10	0	0	—10
Miami	7	7	14	3	—31

Mia —Nathan 14 run (von Schamann kick)
Sea —FG Johnson 27
Mia —Cefalo 34 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Sea —Largent 56 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)
Mia —Hardy 3 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Mia —Clayton 33 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Mia —FG von Schamann 37
Attendance—73,469

SAN FRANCISCO 21, N.Y. GIANTS 10

All season long the 49ers' motto has been "Score early and often." Against the Giants, they managed only to score early. The 14 points San Francisco put on the board in the first seven minutes were enough to seal the win, but not, however, enough to prevent some anxious moments.

Quarterback Joe Montana drove the 49ers 71 yards in eight plays on San Francisco's first possession. With 3:05 elapsed, he passed to wide receiver Dwight Clark, who went high for the catch and a 21-yard touchdown. Shortly thereafter, safety Ronnie Lott picked off New York quarterback Phil Simms's pass and returned it 38 yards to the Giants' 12. Two plays later, Montana threw his second touchdown pass, a nine-yarder to Russ Francis.

The Giants made it close early in the second quarter on Ali Haji-Sheikh's 46-yard field goal, then closer still when linebacker Harry Carson returned an interception of an ill-thrown Montana pass 14 yards for a touchdown.

> **No postseason surprises this year in Miami; the outcome in San Francisco wasn't much of a surprise, either.**

Montana made amends with his third touchdown pass of the half—a 29-yarder to Freddie Solomon that was set up by an unnecessary roughness penalty on the Giants.

What you saw of scoring in the first half was what you got for the game. There were some opportunities for each team, including two missed field goals by San Francisco kicker Ray Wersching and one by Haji-Sheikh. Montana also blew a chance in the third quarter. Following a nifty 53-yard run out of the pocket, he threw one of his three interceptions. Simms returned the favor at the other end of the field; his pass intended for running back Rob Carpenter was intercepted by linebacker Riki Ellison at the 49ers' 22.

"They made enough mistakes for us to beat them," Simms said. "But we made them right along with them."

San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana made up for his three interceptions with three touchdown passes, two of them in the first quarter.

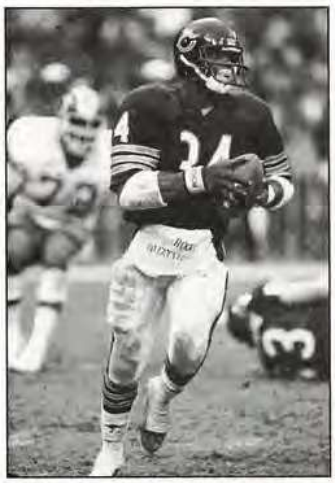
New York	0	10	0	0	—10
San Francisco	14	7	0	0	—21

SF —D. Clark 21 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
SF —Francis 9 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
NY —FG Haji-Sheikh 46
NY —Carson 14 interception return (Haji-Sheikh kick)
SF —Solomon 29 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
Attendance—60,303

WEEK EIGHTEEN

CHICAGO 23, WASHINGTON 19

Washington quarterback Joe Theismann looked shell-shocked by the end of the game. He had spent most of the afternoon trying to run away from the NFL's fiercest pass rush and had been sacked seven times (four sacks and five near-sacks came in the fourth quarter alone.) Optimists might suggest Theismann look on the bright side; he ended up the game's third-leading rusher with 38 yards.



Walter Payton's trick-play touchdown pass stunned the Redskins.

Chicago stacked up John Riggins and sacked Joe Theismann.

"If you look around the locker room, you don't see people amazed," said Bears quarterback Steve Fuller, who came back from injury twice this year to replace injured starter Jim McMahon. "We really thought we would win."

"If you've been on the ground seven times with three hundred pounds on top of you," said Bears defensive tackle Dan Hampton, who was credited with 2½ sacks, "you'd want to get out of there, too."

Defensive end Richard Dent, in one of the game's key matchups, mauled massive Hogs tackle Joe Jacoby, collected three sacks, and spent much of the day in the Redskins' backfield.

Remarkably, with all the pressure, Theismann (22 of 42 for 292 yards, and operating occasionally out of a specially installed Shotgun formation) was intercepted only once.

On the other hand, Chicago quarterback Steve Fuller (9 of 15 for 211 yards and no interceptions) was sacked five times but still managed to throw two touchdown passes, both in the third quarter. The first stunned the Redskins just two plays into the second half. Fuller read a Redskins blitz and threw a wobbly 10-yard pass to wide receiver Willie Gault at the sideline. Cornerback Darrell Green slipped as Gault made the catch and spun away to run untouched into the end zone.

Not long afterward, Fuller capitalized on a fourth-down reprieve when Ken Coffey ran into Chicago punter Dave Finzer and the Bears were awarded a first down. Wide receiver Dennis McKinnon caught two consecutive passes, the second for a 16-yard touchdown to put the Bears ahead 23-10.

(Finzer figured in another score in the fourth quarter. On coach Mike Ditka's orders, and much to the horror of some of his teammates, he intentionally took a safety on a punt snap, cutting the Bears' lead to a precarious four points.)

Fuller had some early help in the touchdown pass department. Running back Walter Payton (104 yards rushing) took a second-quarter pitchout from Fuller at the Redskins' 19, faked a reverse to McKinnon going left, then lofted a pass to tight end Pat Dunsmore, who was all alone in the end zone.

Mr. Postseason for the Redskins, John Riggins, scored twice on one-yard plunges. But it was defensive rushing power, not offensive, that ultimately made the difference.

Chicago	0	10	13	0—23
Washington	3	0	14	2—19

Wash—FG Moseley 25
Chi —FG B. Thomas 34
Chi —Dunsmore 19 pass from Payton (B. Thomas kick)
Chi —Gault 75 pass from Fuller (kick failed)
Wash—Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
Chi —McKinnon 16 pass from Fuller (B. Thomas kick)
Wash—Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
Wash—Safety, Finzer stepped out of end zone
Attendance—55,431

PITTSBURGH 24, DENVER 17

The champions of what were considered the NFL's weakest and strongest divisions met, and, when the smoke had cleared, the meek had inherited a shot at the Super Bowl. The victorious Pittsburgh Steelers, gambling on defense and dominating the offensive line with trap-blocking, played anything but meekly.

Running back Frank Pollard carried the ball 16 times for 99 yards and two touchdowns, 59 yards (or 8 yards more than Denver managed on the ground the entire game) coming on seven first-half rushes. Backfield mate Walter Abercrombie also came through, gaining 75 yards on 17 carries. Unheralded quarterback Mark Malone efficiently directed the passing attack. He completed 17 of 28 passes for 224 yards, no interceptions, and one touchdown, a 10-yard strike to rookie wide receiver Louis Lipps to tie the game at 17-17 11:41 into the third quarter.

The tie stood until the final two minutes of the game. As overtime loomed, Broncos quarterback John Elway (19 of 37 for 184 yards, two touchdowns, and two interceptions), playing the second half with, first, a groin pull and, then, an injured knee, fired a pass intended for wide receiver Ray Alexander at his own 30. It was intercepted on the dead run by free safety Eric Williams and returned to the Denver 2. Pollard ran it in from there on third down with 1:59 left.

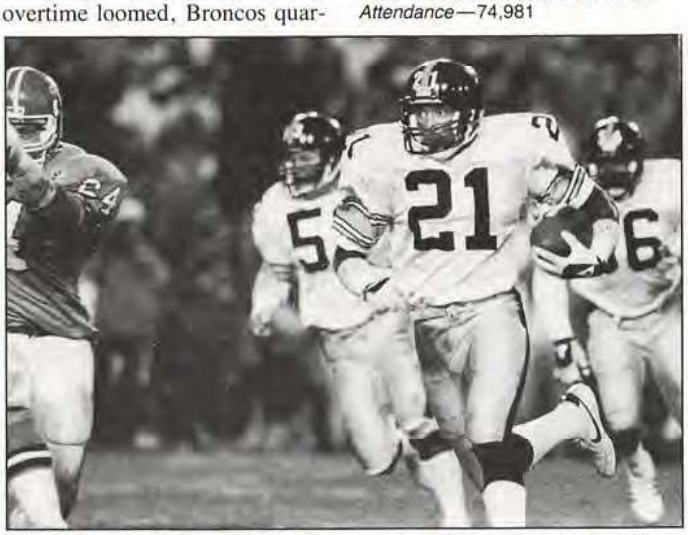
The Broncos had their share of scoring opportunities. (Actually, so did the Steelers; kicker Gary Anderson missed three field goals). Denver had a first down on the Steelers' 6 and Elway was intercepted; kicker Rich Karlis missed two field goals; and when the Broncos got the ball at the Pittsburgh 4 after blocking a punt, they could only turn it into three points.

"The key [to the defeat]," said Denver coach Dan Reeves, "was our inability to score in close."

The Steelers' defense went into Denver loaded for bear, while in Washington, even a Shotgun couldn't keep the Bears away.

Pittsburgh	0	10	7	7—24
Denver	7	0	10	0—17

Den—J. Wright 9 pass from Elway (Karlis kick)
Pitt —FG Anderson 28
Pitt —Pollard 1 run (Anderson kick)
Den—FG Karlis 21
Den—Watson 20 pass from Elway (Karlis kick)
Pitt —Lipps 20 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)
Pitt —Pollard 2 run (Anderson kick)
Attendance—74,981



Eric Williams's 29-yard interception return to the Denver 2 set up Pittsburgh's winning touchdown in the final two minutes of the game.

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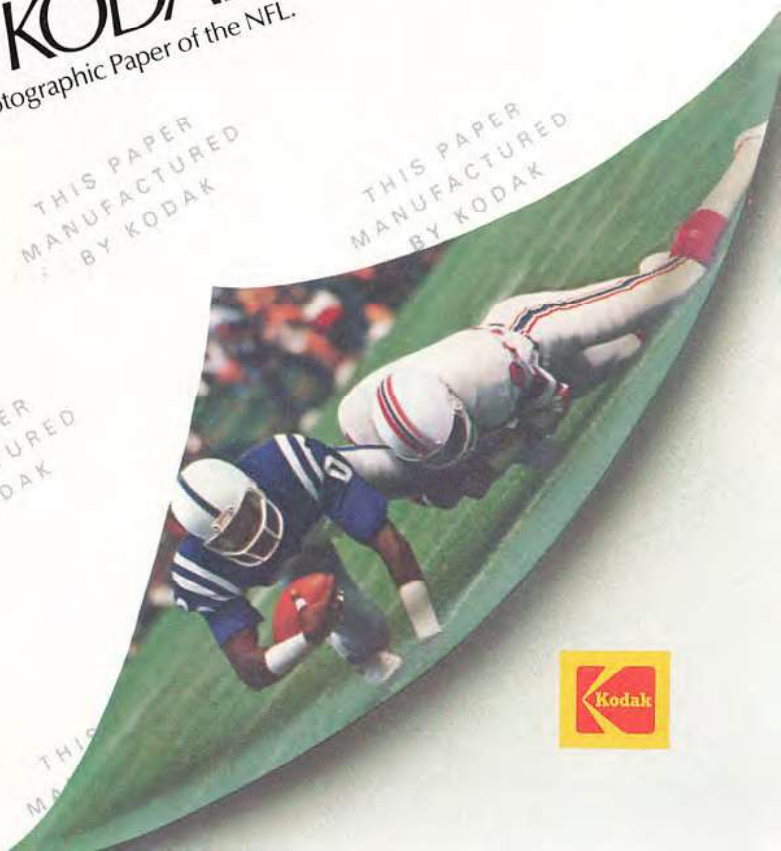

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JAN. 6

WEEK NINETEEN

MIAMI 45, PITTSBURGH 28

The Pittsburgh Steelers were faced with a Catch-22 in their first AFC Championship Game appearance since 1979. They knew they couldn't give Miami quarterback Dan Marino time to throw and still expect to win.

The alternative? Blitz, blitz, and blitz some more.

Miami quarterback Dan Marino was unstoppable against Pittsburgh in the AFC Championship Game, passing for 421 yards and four touchdowns.

Marino methodically guns down the Steelers; now the explosive Dolphins head for Stanford well armed and very dangerous.

One slight problem. Blitzing Marino invites disaster. Feasting on the blitzes and everything else Pittsburgh threw at him, Marino shredded the Steelers for 421 yards and four touchdowns—both AFC Championship Game records—and led the Dolphins to a 45-28 victory.

"You'd think the best defensive game plan would be to blitz a young quarterback," said Dolphins wide receiver Jimmy Cefalo. "But that doesn't work against Marino."

"When a defense blitzes," Marino said, "they take a chance they're going to get hurt."

Pittsburgh defensive coordinator Tony Dungy was asked if the Steelers' intent was to disguise their coverages in an effort to confuse the second-year Miami quarterback.

"Yes," he said.

Did it work?

"No."

It wasn't just Marino, of course. The Dolphins' airtight offensive line was ready with plenty of adjustments for the Steelers' blitzing onslaught.

"We had so many adjustments," Cefalo said, "I imagine it would take a Harvard summa cum laude weeks to memorize all of them."

Marino's 40-yard touchdown bomb to wide receiver Mark Clayton midway through the first quarter gave Miami a 7-0 lead, which Pittsburgh answered four minutes later on a seven-yard run by rookie Rich Erenberg.

Miami's Uwe von Schamann kicked a 26-yard field goal at 5:56 of the second quarter to put the Dolphins back on top 10-7. But the Steelers, who successfully controlled the ball and the clock with their running game in the early going, took their only lead of the game with just less than three minutes left in the half when quarterback Mark Malone stunned Miami with a 65-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver John Stallworth. The lead lasted 82 seconds.

Marino gunned the accelerator and whisked the Dolphins 77 yards in just five plays, finishing the drive with a 41-yard touchdown bolt to wide receiver Mark Duper.

When Lyle Blackwood intercepted Malone at the Steelers' 39 on the next series, the Dolphins snuck in another score just before halftime, increasing their lead to 24-14 on Tony Nathan's two-yard run.

Miami received the second-half kickoff, and Marino orchestrated another express drive: four plays, 78 yards, and a 36-yard touchdown pass to Duper.

Stallworth caught his second scoring pass of the game (giving him a record total of 12 playoff touchdown receptions) midway through the third quarter to move Pittsburgh to within 10.

But Marino, working the clock, drove the Dolphins to two more touchdowns on their next two possessions: a one-yard run by Woody Bennett with 1:40 left in the third quarter, and a six-yard pass to Nat Moore at 3:55 of the fourth.

That made it 45-21. Malone's 29-yard touchdown pass to Wayne Capers in the game's final minute changed the final score to 45-28, but nothing else.

"Twenty-eight points probably should have been enough to win," Malone said, "but the way Marino was playing, every time you turned your head they were back in the end zone."

"They have a helluva passing game, well designed" said Pittsburgh safety Donnie Shell, who had the Steelers' only interception and also forced a fumble. "But it's not the design. It's number thirteen [Marino]."

"Every time the Steelers did something," said Miami head coach Don Shula, "our offense came back and kept the space between us. Dan Marino keeps rising to the occasion. When we get behind, we have the type of people that don't worry about it, but just keep coming back."

"Marino has done so much for us all year that you want to keep seeing what he can do for an encore," Moore said.

There will be one more encore: Super Bowl XIX at Stanford Stadium.

"Getting to California has been our goal since the beginning of the season," said Dolphins nose tackle Bob Baumhower. "We've accomplished our one goal—to get there. Now we just have to win it."

Pittsburgh	7	7	7	7	—28
Miami	7	17	14	7	—45

Mia — Clayton 40 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Pitt — Erenberg 7 run (Anderson kick)
Mia — FG von Schamann 26
Pitt — Stallworth 65 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)
Mia — Duper 41 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Mia — Nathan 2 run (von Schamann kick)
Mia — Duper 36 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Pitt — Stallworth 19 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)
Mia — Bennett 1 run (von Schamann kick)
Mia — Moore 6 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)
Pitt — Capers 29 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)

Attendance—76,029

Miami's Magic Markers: Mark Clayton (left), celebrating his 40-yard touchdown reception, and Mark Duper, scoring on a 41-yard pass play.

WEEK NINETEEN

SAN FRANCISCO 23, CHICAGO 0

No question about it, the San Francisco 49ers would have ached sorrowfully if a Super Bowl had been played in their own backyard and they weren't in it.

Quarterback Joe Montana directed the 49ers into Super Bowl XIX.

Besides, history might never have forgiven them, considering their 16 victories in 17 games prior to the NFC Championship Game.

But the 49ers avoided that potential agony and admitted themselves to the Super Bowl by disposing of the Chicago Bears 23-0. It was San Francisco's eleventh consecutive victory and earned the team its second Super Bowl berth in four years.

The game had appeared to many to be a mismatch on paper, and it turned out to be a mismatch on the field. San Francisco's intricate offense outperformed (and out-finessed) Chicago's league-leading defense, while the 49ers' own defensive unit stuffed the Bears' offense throughout the game. Chicago netted just 186 yards all afternoon (compared to 387 for the 49ers), and Bears quarterback Steve Fuller was sacked eight times (of a championship game record total of nine by the 49ers) and limited to only 87 yards passing.

"We got a lesson today," said Chicago head coach Mike Ditka. "They came out attacking, and when you attack the other guy and keep him off balance, you usually make something happen."

"Our defense can do anything it wants to do," said 49ers defensive end Gary (Big Hands) Johnson, who had two of the 49ers' sacks, "and that's the truth."

The Bears really only had two major scoring threats in the entire game. The first threat, on the game's opening series, ended with an errant 41-yard field goal attempt by placekicker Bob Thomas. The other, late in the third quarter, was defused by sacks by Johnson and Dwaine Board.

Yet despite dominating the play and controlling the tempo in the first half, San Francisco took only a slim 6-0 lead (on two field goals by Ray Wersching) to its locker room at halftime.

By whipping Chicago at its own game, the 49ers fulfill their destiny: to play in their back-yard Super Bowl.

San Francisco running back Wendell Tyler's off-tackle slashes helped open up the 49ers' offense and produced a nine-yard touchdown run.

Wide receiver Freddie Solomon caught a 10-yard touchdown pass early in the fourth quarter to give the 49ers a 20-0 lead against the Bears.

Two first-half interceptions by safety Gary Fencik (one in the end zone) helped fend off two San Francisco intrusions into Bears territory, but when Chicago had the ball it just couldn't get anything going. To wit: the Bears gained zero yards in the second quarter.

Running back Walter Payton managed to rush for 92 yards on 22 carries, but even he was less effective than usual and had trouble on first-down plays all game long.

"When we couldn't get that first-down yardage," said Bears offensive tackle Keith Van Horne, "they just teed off on us."

Meanwhile, with the 49ers' offensive line unveiling some brand new blocking schemes that crossed up Chicago, Wendell Tyler (68 yards rushing on 10 carries) and Roger Craig (44 yards on 8 carries) softened up the Bears enough for Joe Montana's passing (233 yards) to be effective.

"It was completely different from anything we did this year," said tackle Keith Fahnhorst of the 49ers' revised tactics. "We had to do a lot of communicating out there and learn a whole new pass protection scheme."

The 49ers communicated well and learned quickly. The Bears, who led the NFL with a record 72 sacks this season, only got to Montana three times for a harmless total of eight yards lost.

The 49ers put the Bears on the ropes at 6:33 of the third quarter when Tyler took a pitch from Montana, sliced off tackle, and shed four Bears on a nine-yard trip into the end zone. Montana then effectively knocked Chicago out of the ring—and the playoffs—with a 10-yard scoring pass to wide receiver Freddie Solomon at 3:45 of the final period, making it 20-0. Wersching concluded the scoring with his third field goal (from 34 yards) with 2:57 left.

"I had some good rushes," said Chicago defensive tackle Dan Hampton. "But I would get there a step too late. Montana holds the ball only two-to-three seconds, while [Washington's Joe] Theismann last week held the ball three-to-four seconds. That one second makes a lot of difference."

Next up for the 49ers: Miami, a matchup people have been eagerly anticipating.

"It's not too early now for us to talk about it," said Johnson after the championship game victory. "People have been talking all year about a Dolphins-49ers Super Bowl, and now they've got it."

Chicago	0	0	0	0	— 0
San Francisco	3	3	7	10	—23

SF — FG Wersching 21
SF — FG Wersching 22
SF — Tyler 9 run (Wersching kick)
SF — Solomon 10 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)
SF — FG Wersching 34
Attendance—61,040

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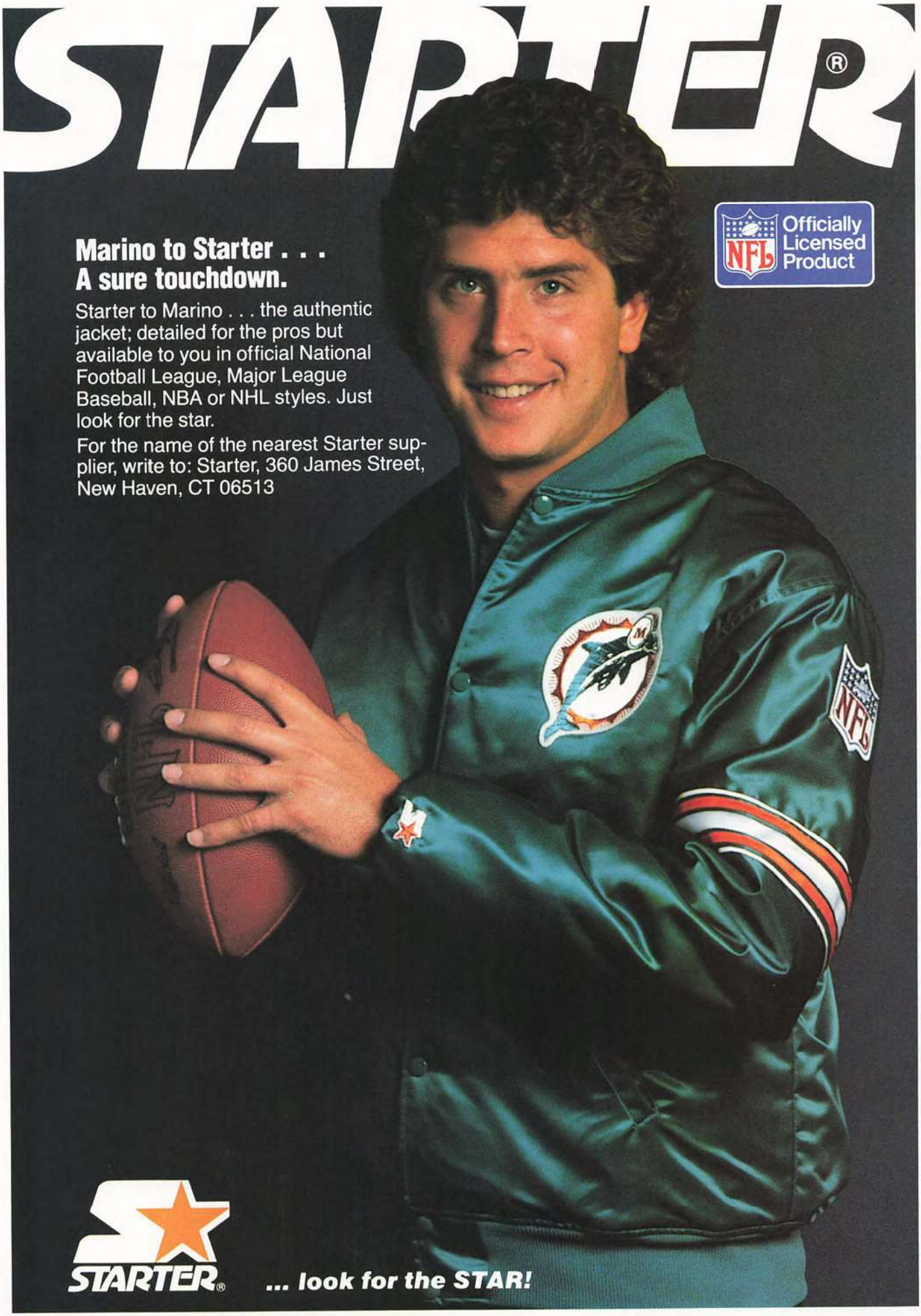

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1984 STATISTICS

LEADING RUSHERS

AFC	Att.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TDs
Earnest Jackson, S.D.	296	1179	4.0	32	8
Marcus Allen, Raiders	275	1168	4.2	52	13
Sammy Winder, Denver	296	1153	3.9	24	4
Greg Bell, Buffalo	262	1100	4.2	85	7
Freeman McNeil, Jets	229	1070	4.7	53	5
Frank Pollard, Pittsburgh	213	851	4.0	52	6
Craig James, N.E.	160	790	4.9	73	1
Larry Moriarty, Houston	189	785	4.2	51	6
Randy McMillan, Ind.	163	705	4.3	31	5
Herman Heard, K.C.	165	684	4.1	69	4
Boyce Green, Cleveland	202	673	3.3	29	0
Larry Kinnebrew, Cin.	154	623	4.0	23	9
Walter Abercrombie, Pitt.	145	610	4.2	31	1
Woody Bennett, Miami	144	606	4.2	23	7
Tony Nathan, Miami	118	558	4.7	22	1
Mosi Tatupu, N.E.	133	553	4.2	20	4
Tony Collins, N.E.	138	550	4.0	21	5
Johnny Hector, Jets	124	531	4.3	64	1
Curtis Dickey, Ind.	131	523	4.0	30	3
Mike Pruitt, Cleveland	163	506	3.1	14	6
NFC					
Eric Dickerson, Rams	379	2105	5.6	66	14
Walter Payton, Chicago	381	1684	4.4	72	11
James Wilder, T.B.	407	1544	3.8	37	13
Gerald Riggs, Atlanta	353	1486	4.2	57	13
Wendell Tyler, S.F.	246	1262	5.1	40	7
John Riggins, Wash.	327	1239	3.8	24	14
Tony Dorsett, Dallas	302	1189	3.9	31	6
Ottis Anderson, St. Louis	289	1174	4.1	24	6
George Rogers, N.O.	239	914	3.8	28	2
Rob Carpenter, Giants	250	795	3.2	22	7
Wilbert Montgomery, Phil.	201	789	3.9	27	2
Alfred Anderson, Minn.	201	773	3.8	23	2
Billy Sims, Detroit	130	687	5.3	81	5
Roger Craig, S.F.	155	649	4.2	28	7
Hokie Gajan, N.O.	102	615	6.0	62	5
Gerry Ellis, Green Bay	123	581	4.7	50	4
Eddie Lee Ivery, G.B.	99	552	5.6	49	6
James Jones, Detroit	137	532	3.9	34	3
Joe Morris, Giants	133	510	3.8	28	4
Earl Campbell, Hou.-N.O.	146	468	3.2	22	4

LONGEST RUNS

AFC—85 yards, touchdown, Greg Bell, Buffalo vs. Dallas, November 18

NFC—81 yards, Billy Sims, Detroit vs. San Diego, September 30

BEST PERFORMANCES

NFC—215 yards, 27 attempts, Eric Dickerson, L.A. Rams vs. Houston, December 9

AFC—206 yards, 27 attempts, Greg Bell, Buffalo vs. Dallas, November 18

Earnest Jackson, San Diego Chargers

Eric Dickerson, Los Angeles Rams

Marcus Allen, Los Angeles Raiders

Ray Wersching, San Francisco 49ers

LEADING SCORERS, TOUCHDOWNS

AFC	TDs	Rush	Rec.	Ret.	TP
Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders	18	13	5	0	108
Mark Clayton, Miami	18	0	18	0	108
Pete Johnson, S.D.-Miami	12	12	0	0	72
Steve Largent, Seattle	12	0	12	0	72
Louis Lipps, Pittsburgh	11	1	9	1	66
John Stallworth, Pittsburgh	11	0	11	0	66
Larry Kinnebrew, Cincinnati	10	9	1	0	60
Daryl Turner, Seattle	10	0	10	0	60
Earnest Jackson, S.D.	9	8	1	0	54
Greg Bell, Buffalo	8	7	1	0	48
Woody Bennett, Miami	8	7	1	0	48
Mark Duper, Miami	8	0	8	0	48
Tony Paige, N.Y. Jets	8	7	1	0	48
NFC					
Eric Dickerson, L.A. Rams	14	14	0	0	84
John Riggins, Washington	14	14	0	0	84
Gerald Riggs, Atlanta	13	13	0	0	78
James Wilder, Tampa Bay	13	13	0	0	78
Roy Green, St. Louis	12	0	12	0	72
Stump Mitchell, St. Louis	11	9	2	0	66
Walter Payton, Chicago	11	11	0	0	66
Freddie Solomon, S.F.	11	1	10	0	66
Roger Craig, San Francisco	10	7	3	0	60
Paul Coffman, Green Bay	9	0	9	0	54
Mike Quick, Philadelphia	9	0	9	0	54
Wendell Tyler, S.F.	9	7	2	0	54

BEST PERFORMANCES

AFC—24 points, 4 touchdowns, Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. San Diego, September 24; 24 points, 4 touchdowns, Larry Kinnebrew, Cincinnati vs. Houston, October 28

NFC—18 points, 3 touchdowns, Leonard Thompson, Detroit vs. Minnesota, September 23; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Lynn Cain, Atlanta vs. L.A. Rams, October 7; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Art Monk, Washington vs. Indianapolis, October 7; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Joe Morris, N.Y. Giants vs. Washington, October 28; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Otis Wonsley, Washington vs. Detroit, November 11; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Eddie Lee Ivery, Green Bay vs. L.A. Rams, November 18; 18 points, 3 touchdowns, Eric Dickerson, L.A. Rams vs. Tampa Bay, November 25

LEADING SCORERS, KICKING

AFC	PAT	FG	Long	TP
Gary Anderson, Pittsburgh	45/45	24/32	55	117
Norm Johnson, Seattle	50/51	20/24	50	110
Tony Franklin, New England	42/42	22/28	48	108
Nick Lowery, Kansas City	35/35	23/33	52	104
Jim Breech, Cincinnati	37/37	22/31	48	103
Rich Karlis, Denver	38/41	21/28	50	101
Chris Bahr, L.A. Raiders	40/42	20/27	50	100
Matt Bahr, Cleveland	25/25	24/32	50	97
Uwe von Schamann, Miami	66/70	9/19	37	93
NFC				
Ray Wersching, San Francisco	56/56	25/35	53	131
Mark Moseley, Washington	48/51	24/31	51	120
Neil O'Donoghue, St. Louis	48/51	23/35	52	117
Paul McFadden, Philadelphia	26/27	30/37	52	116
Mike Lansford, L.A. Rams	37/38	25/33	50	112
Rafael Septien, Dallas	33/34	23/29	52	102
Bob Thomas, Chicago	35/37	22/28	52	101
Obed Ariri, Tampa Bay	38/40	19/26	49	95
Morten Andersen, New Orleans	34/34	20/27	53	94
Mick Luckhurst, Atlanta	31/31	20/27	52	91
Eddie Murray, Detroit	31/31	20/27	52	91

LONGEST FIELD GOALS

AFC—60 yards, Steve Cox, Cleveland vs. Cincinnati, October 21

NFC—54 yards, Jan Stenerud, Minnesota vs. Atlanta, September 16

1984 STATISTICS

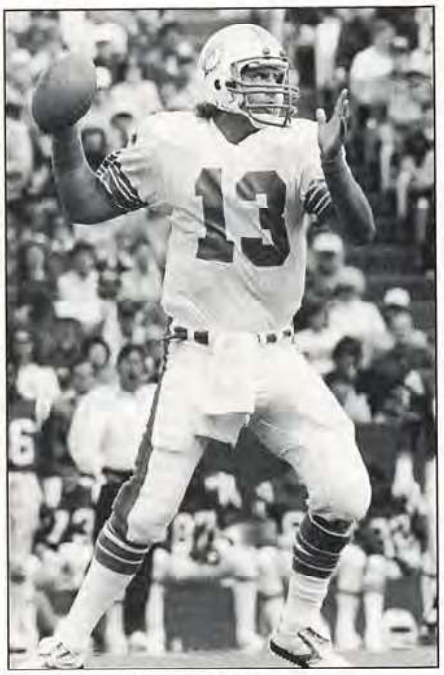
LEADING PASSERS

AFC	Att.	Comp.	Pct. Comp.	Yds. Gnd.	Avg. Gain	TD	Pct. TD	LP	Int.	Pct. Int.	Rating
Dan Marino, Miami	564	362	64.2	5084	9.01	48	8.5	80	17	3.0	108.9
Tony Eason, New England	431	259	60.1	3228	7.49	23	5.3	76	8	1.9	93.4
Dan Fouts, San Diego	507	317	62.5	3740	7.38	19	3.7	61	17	3.4	83.4
Dave Krieg, Seattle	480	276	57.5	3671	7.65	32	6.7	80	24	5.0	83.3
Ken Anderson, Cincinnati	275	175	63.6	2107	7.66	10	3.6	80	12	4.4	81.0
Bill Kenney, Kansas City	282	151	53.5	2098	7.44	15	5.3	65	10	3.5	80.7
Warren Moon, Houston	450	259	57.6	3338	7.42	12	2.7	76	14	3.1	76.9
John Elway, Denver	380	214	56.3	2598	6.84	18	4.7	73	15	3.9	76.8
Mark Malone, Pittsburgh	272	147	54.0	2137	7.86	16	5.9	61	17	6.3	73.4
Pat Ryan, N.Y. Jets	285	156	54.7	1939	6.80	14	4.9	44	14	4.9	72.0
Marc Wilson, L.A. Raiders	282	153	54.3	2151	7.63	15	5.3	92	17	6.0	71.7
Paul McDonald, Cleveland	493	271	55.0	3472	7.04	14	2.8	64	23	4.7	67.3
Joe Ferguson, Buffalo	344	191	55.5	1991	5.79	12	3.5	68	17	4.9	63.5
Todd Blackledge, Kansas City	294	147	50.0	1707	5.81	6	2.0	46	11	3.7	59.2
NFC											
Joe Montana, San Francisco	432	279	64.6	3630	8.40	28	6.5	80	10	2.3	102.9
Neil Lomax, St. Louis	560	345	61.6	4614	8.24	28	5.0	83	16	2.9	92.5
Steve Bartkowski, Atlanta	269	181	67.3	2158	8.02	11	4.1	61	10	3.7	89.7
Joe Theismann, Washington	477	283	59.3	3391	7.11	24	5.0	80	13	2.7	86.6
Lynn Dickey, Green Bay	401	237	59.1	3195	7.97	25	6.2	79	19	4.7	85.6
Gary Danielson, Detroit	410	252	61.5	3076	7.50	17	4.1	77	15	3.7	83.1
Steve DeBerg, Tampa Bay	509	308	60.5	3554	6.98	19	3.7	55	18	3.5	79.3
Jeff Kemp, L.A. Rams	284	143	50.4	2021	7.12	13	4.6	63	7	2.5	78.7
Phil Simms, N.Y. Giants	533	286	53.7	4044	7.59	22	4.1	65	18	3.4	78.1
Ron Jaworski, Philadelphia	427	234	54.8	2754	6.45	16	3.7	90	14	3.3	73.5
Danny White, Dallas	233	126	54.1	1580	6.78	11	4.7	66	11	4.7	71.5
Tommy Kramer, Minnesota	236	124	52.5	1678	7.11	9	3.8	70	10	4.2	70.6
Gary Hogeboom, Dallas	367	195	53.1	2366	6.45	7	1.9	68	14	3.8	63.7
Richard Todd, New Orleans	312	161	51.6	2178	6.98	11	3.5	74	19	6.1	60.6

LONGEST PASS PLAYS

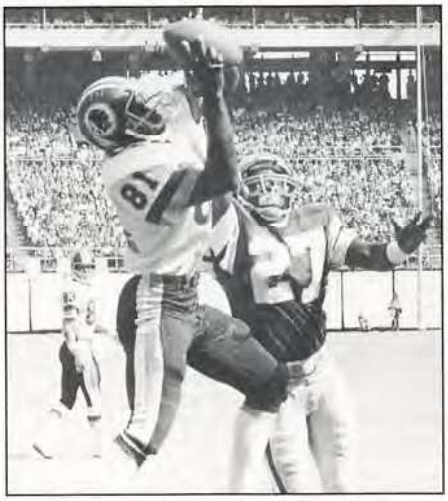
AFC—92 yards, Marc Wilson to Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders vs. Seattle, October 7

NFC—90 yards, touchdown, Ron Jaworski to Mike Quick, Philadelphia vs. St. Louis, October 28



Dan Marino, Miami Dolphins

Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers



Art Monk, Washington Redskins

LEADING INTERCEPTORS

AFC	No.	Yards	Long	TDs
Kenny Easley, Seattle	10	126	58	2
Dave Brown, Seattle	8	179	90	2
Deron Cherry, Kansas City	7	140	67	0
Donnie Shell, Pittsburgh	7	61	52	1
Mike Haynes, L.A. Raiders	6	220	97	1
Glenn Blackwood, Miami	6	169	50	0
Sam Washington, Pittsburgh	6	138	69	2
Kevin Ross, Kansas City	6	124	71	1
Steve Foley, Denver	6	97	40	1
Mike Harden, Denver	6	79	45	1
John Harris, Seattle	6	79	29	0
Eugene Daniel, Indianapolis	6	25	18	0
NFC				
Tom Flynn, Green Bay	9	106	31	0
Tim Lewis, Green Bay	7	151	99	1
Michael Downs, Dallas	7	126	27	1
Ray Ellis, Philadelphia	7	119	31	0
Vernon Dean, Washington	7	114	36	2
Mark Haynes, N.Y. Giants	7	90	22	0

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURNS

AFC—99 yards, touchdown, Gill Byrd, San Diego vs. Kansas City, October 14

NFC—99 yards, touchdown, Tim Lewis, Green Bay vs. L.A. Rams, November 18

LEADING RECEIVERS

AFC	No.	Yards	Avg.	TDs
Ozzie Newsome, Cleveland	89	1001	11.2	5
John Stallworth, Pittsburgh	80	1395	17.4	11
Todd Christensen, L.A. Raiders	80	1007	12.6	7
Steve Largent, Seattle	74	1164	15.7	12
Mark Clayton, Miami	73	1389	19.0	18
Mark Duper, Miami	71	1306	18.4	8
Steve Watson, Denver	69	1170	17.0	7
Tim Smith, Houston	69	1141	16.5	4
Byron Franklin, Buffalo	69	862	12.5	4
Mickey Shuler, N.Y. Jets	68	782	11.5	6
Derrick Ramsey, New England	66	792	12.0	7
Cris Collinsworth, Cincinnati	65	1000	15.4	6
Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders	64	758	11.8	5
Henry Marshall, Kansas City	62	912	14.7	4
Charlie Joiner, San Diego	61	793	13.0	6
Tony Nathan, Miami	61	579	9.5	2
Carlos Carson, Kansas City	57	1078	18.9	4
Pete Holohan, San Diego	56	734	13.1	1
Kellen Winslow, San Diego	55	663	12.1	2
Wes Chandler, San Diego	52	708	13.6	6

BEST PERFORMANCE

AFC—15 catches, 157 yards, Kellen Winslow, San Diego vs. Green Bay, September 7

LEADING RECEIVERS

NFC				
Art Monk, Washington	106	1372	12.9	7
James Wilder, Tampa Bay	85	685	8.1	0
Roy Green, St. Louis	78	1555	19.9	12
James Jones, Detroit	77	662	8.6	5
Kevin House, Tampa Bay	76	1005	13.2	5
Roger Craig, San Francisco	71	675	9.5	3
Ottis Anderson, St. Louis	70	611	8.7	2
Stacey Bailey, Atlanta	67	1138	17.0	6
John Spagnola, Philadelphia	65	701	10.8	1
James Lofton, Green Bay	62	1361	22.0	7
Mike Quick, Philadelphia	61	1052	17.2	9
Gerald Carter, Tampa Bay	60	816	13.6	5
Doug Cosbie, Dallas	60	789	13.2	4
Wilbert Montgomery, Philadelphia	60	501	8.4	0
Tony Hill, Dallas	58	864	14.9	5
Dwight Clark, San Francisco	52	880	16.9	6
Pat Tilley, St. Louis	52	758	14.6	5
Alfred Jackson, Atlanta	52	731	14.1	2
Tony Dorsett, Dallas	51	459	9.0	1
Leonard Thompson, Detroit	50	773	15.5	6

BEST PERFORMANCE

NFC—12 catches, 124 yards, Ottis Anderson, St. Louis vs. Washington, December 16

Kenny Easley, Seattle Seahawks

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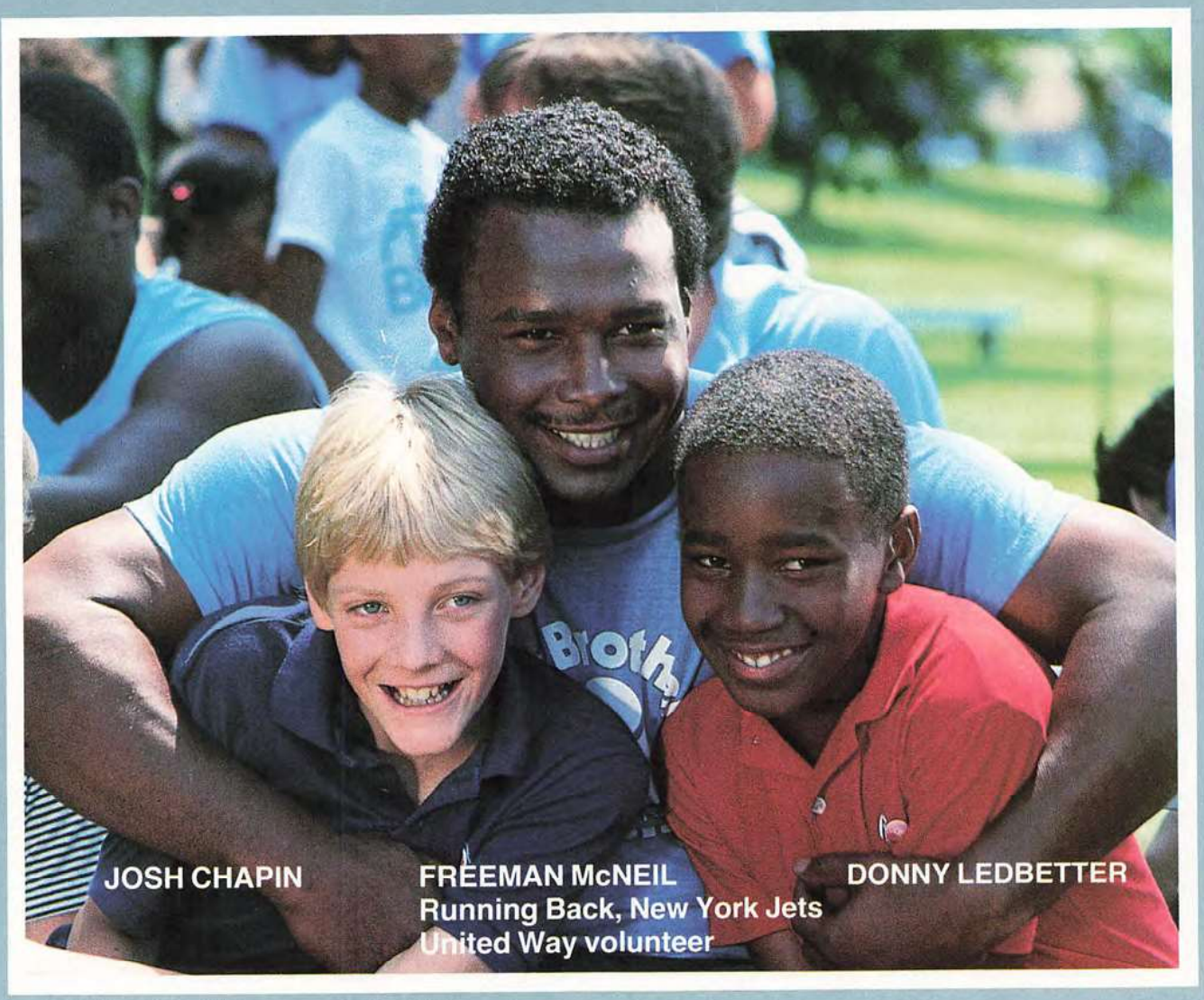

Freeman McNeil of the New York Jets was only 7 years old when he lost his father. That's why he knows how these boys who have lost their fathers feel. Their fathers were friends of his.

Josh Chapin is the son of the talented song writer and musician Harry Chapin, and Donny Ledbetter is the son of the respected NFL coach Robert Ledbetter. Their fathers' untimely deaths have left each of these boys with a need . . . for love, for guidance, for understanding. As a United Way volunteer, Freeman McNeil has become a sort of surrogate father to them, trying to provide some of the relationships that are so important to a growing child.

He gives his time, he gives his love as part of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters program supported by United Way.

When you support the United Way, you're making the work of volunteers like Freeman McNeil possible. When you volunteer through the agencies and programs of United Way, you're a part of it. So we can say, thanks to you it works, for all of us the United Way.

United Way

Freeman McNeil is one of more than 400 NFL players who have appeared in the NFL/United Way Public Service TV Spot Series, now in its 11th year.

1984 STATISTICS

LEADING PUNTERS

AFC	No.	Yards	Long	Avg.
Jim Arnold, Kansas City	98	4397	63	44.9
Reggie Roby, Miami	51	2281	69	44.7
Rohn Stark, Indianapolis	98	4383	72	44.7
Steve Cox, Cleveland	74	3213	69	43.4
Luke Prestridge, New England	44	1884	89	42.8
Pat McInally, Cincinnati	67	2832	61	42.3
Rich Camarillo, New England	48	2020	61	42.1
Maury Buford, San Diego	66	2773	60	42.0
John Kidd, Buffalo	88	3696	63	42.0
Ray Guy, L.A. Raiders	91	3809	63	41.9
Craig Colquitt, Pittsburgh	70	2883	62	41.2
Chris Norman, Denver	96	3850	83	40.1
Chuck Ramsey, N.Y. Jets	74	2935	64	39.7
John James, Houston	88	3482	55	39.6
Jeff West, Seattle	95	3567	60	37.5
NFC				
Brian Hansen, New Orleans	69	3020	66	43.8
Greg Coleman, Minnesota	82	3473	62	42.4
Bucky Scribner, Green Bay	85	3596	61	42.3
Michael Horan, Philadelphia	92	3880	69	42.2
Ralph Giacomarro, Atlanta	68	2855	58	42.0
Frank Garcia, Tampa Bay	68	2849	60	41.9
Max Runager, San Francisco	56	2341	59	41.8
Michael Black, Detroit	76	3164	63	41.6
Dave Finzer, Chicago	83	3328	87	40.1
Dave Jennings, N.Y. Giants	90	3598	54	40.0
Jeff Hayes, Washington	72	2834	59	39.4
John Misko, L.A. Rams	74	2866	58	38.7
Carl Birdsong, St. Louis	67	2594	59	38.7
Danny White, Dallas	82	3151	54	38.4

LONGEST PUNTS

AFC—89 yards, Luke Prestridge, New England vs. Miami, October 21

NFC—87 yards, Dave Finzer, Chicago vs. New Orleans, October 7

LEADING PUNT RETURNERS

AFC	No.	Yards	Avg.	TDs
Mike Martin, Cincinnati	24	376	15.7	0
Louis Lipps, Pittsburgh	53	656	12.4	1
Gerald Willhite, Denver	20	200	10.0	0
Irving Fryar, New England	36	347	9.6	0
Don Wilson, Buffalo	33	297	9.0	1
Greg Pruitt, L.A. Raiders	53	473	8.9	0
Kirk Springs, N.Y. Jets	28	247	8.8	0
J.T. Smith, Kansas City	39	332	8.5	0
Fulton Walker, Miami	21	169	8.0	0
Brian Brennan, Cleveland	25	199	8.0	0
NFC				
Henry Ellard, L.A. Rams	30	403	13.4	2
Dana McLemore, San Francisco	45	521	11.6	1
Stump Mitchell, St. Louis	38	333	8.8	0
Jitter Fields, New Orleans	27	236	8.7	0
Mike Nelms, Washington	49	428	8.7	0
Jeff Fisher, Chicago	57	492	8.6	0
Robbie Martin, Detroit	25	210	8.4	0
Gary Allen, Dallas	54	446	8.3	0
Darrin Nelson, Minnesota	23	180	7.8	0
Leon Bright, Tampa Bay	23	173	7.5	0

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

NFC—83 yards, touchdown, Henry Ellard, L.A. Rams vs. N.Y. Giants, September 30

AFC—76 yards, touchdown, Louis Lipps, Pittsburgh vs. New Orleans, November 19

LEADING KICKOFF RETURNERS

AFC	No.	Yards	Avg.	TDs
Bobby Humphery, N.Y. Jets	22	675	30.7	1
Dokie Williams, L.A. Raiders	24	621	25.9	0
Larry Anderson, Indianapolis	22	525	23.9	0
Kirk Springs, N.Y. Jets	23	521	22.7	0
Carl Roaches, Houston	30	679	22.6	0
Lionel James, San Diego	43	959	22.3	0
Tony Collins, New England	25	544	21.8	0
Cle Montgomery, L.A. Raiders	26	555	21.3	0
Fulton Walker, Miami	29	617	21.3	0
Van Williams, Buffalo	39	820	21.0	0
NFC				
Barry Redden, L.A. Rams	23	530	23.0	0
Stump Mitchell, St. Louis	35	804	23.0	0
Darrin Nelson, Minnesota	39	891	22.8	0
Tyrone Anthony, New Orleans	22	490	22.3	0
Michael Morton, Tampa Bay	38	835	22.0	0
Del Rodgers, Green Bay	39	843	21.6	1
Alfred Anderson, Minnesota	30	639	21.3	0
Drew Hill, L.A. Rams	26	543	20.9	0
Carl Monroe, San Francisco	27	561	20.8	0
Mike Nelms, Washington	42	860	20.5	0

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

AFC—97 yards, touchdown, Bobby Humphery, N.Y. Jets vs. Pittsburgh, September 6

NFC—97 yards, touchdown, Del Rodgers, Green Bay vs. Chicago, December 9

Jim Arnold, Kansas City Chiefs

Bobby Humphery, New York Jets

Mike Martin, Cincinnati Bengals

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American Football Conference

OFFENSE
Wide Receivers
Mark Duper . . . . . Miami
John Stallworth . . . . . Pittsburgh
Steve Largent . . . . . Seattle
Mark Clayton . . . . . Miami
Tackles
Anthony Muñoz . . . . . Cincinnati
Brian Holloway . . . . . New England
Henry Lawrence . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Guards
John Hannah . . . . . New England
Ed Newman . . . . . Miami
Mike Munchak . . . . . Houston
Centers
Dwight Stephenson . . . . . Miami
Mike Webster . . . . . Pittsburgh
Tight Ends
Ozzie Newsome . . . . . Cleveland
Todd Christensen . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Quarterbacks
Dan Marino . . . . . Miami
Dave Krieg . . . . . Seattle
Running Backs
Marcus Allen . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Freeman McNeil . . . . . New York Jets
Earnest Jackson . . . . . San Diego
Sammy Winder . . . . . Denver

Players are listed by position and in order of total number of votes received. Prospective starters are in italics.

Ozzie Newsome, Cleveland Browns

DEFENSE
Ends
Howie Long . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Mark Gastineau . . . . . New York Jets
Art Still . . . . . Kansas City
Nose Tackles
Joe Nash . . . . . Seattle
Bob Baumhower . . . . . Miami
Outside Linebackers
Rod Martin . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Mike Merriweather . . . . . Pittsburgh
Andre Tippett . . . . . New England
Inside Linebackers
Steve Nelson . . . . . New England
Robin Cole . . . . . Pittsburgh
A.J. Duhe . . . . . Miami
Cornerbacks
Mike Haynes . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Lester Hayes . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Dave Brown . . . . . Seattle
Safeties
Kenny Easley . . . . . Seattle
Vann McElroy . . . . . Los Angeles Raiders
Deron Cherry . . . . . Kansas City
SPECIALISTS
Punter
Reggie Roby . . . . . Miami
Kicker
Norm Johnson . . . . . Seattle
Kick Returner
Louis Lipps . . . . . Pittsburgh
Special Teamer
Fredd Young . . . . . Seattle

National Football Conference

OFFENSE
Wide Receivers
Roy Green . . . . . St. Louis
James Lofton . . . . . Green Bay
Art Monk . . . . . Washington
Mike Quick . . . . . Philadelphia
Tackles
Joe Jacoby . . . . . Washington
Mike Kenn . . . . . Atlanta
Keith Fahnhorst . . . . . San Francisco
Guards
Russ Grimm . . . . . Washington
Randy Cross . . . . . San Francisco
Kent Hill . . . . . Los Angeles Rams
Centers
Fred Quillan . . . . . San Francisco
Doug Smith . . . . . Los Angeles Rams
Tight Ends
Paul Coffman . . . . . Green Bay
Doug Cosbie . . . . . Dallas
Quarterbacks
Joe Montana . . . . . San Francisco
Neil Lomax . . . . . St. Louis
Running Backs
Eric Dickerson . . . . . Los Angeles Rams
Walter Payton . . . . . Chicago
James Wilder . . . . . Tampa Bay
Wendell Tyler . . . . . San Francisco

Players are listed by position and in order of total number of votes received. Prospective starters are in italics.

Henry Ellard, Los Angeles Rams

DEFENSE
Ends
Lee Roy Selmon . . . . . Tampa Bay
Richard Dent . . . . . Chicago
Bruce Clark . . . . . New Orleans
Nose Tackles
Dan Hampton . . . . . Chicago
Randy White . . . . . Dallas
Outside Linebackers
Lawrence Taylor . . . . . New York Giants
Rickey Jackson . . . . . New Orleans
Keena Turner . . . . . San Francisco
Inside Linebackers
Mike Singletary . . . . . Chicago
E.J Junior . . . . . St. Louis
Harry Carson . . . . . New York Giants
Cornerbacks
Mark Haynes . . . . . New York Giants
Darrell Green . . . . . Washington
Ronnie Lott . . . . . San Francisco
Safeties
Todd Bell . . . . . Chicago
Dwight Hicks . . . . . San Francisco
Carlton Williamson . . . . . San Francisco
SPECIALISTS
Punter
Brian Hansen . . . . . New Orleans
Kicker
Jan Stenerud . . . . . Minnesota
Kick Returner
Henry Ellard . . . . . Los Angeles Rams
Special Teamer
Bill Bates . . . . . Dallas

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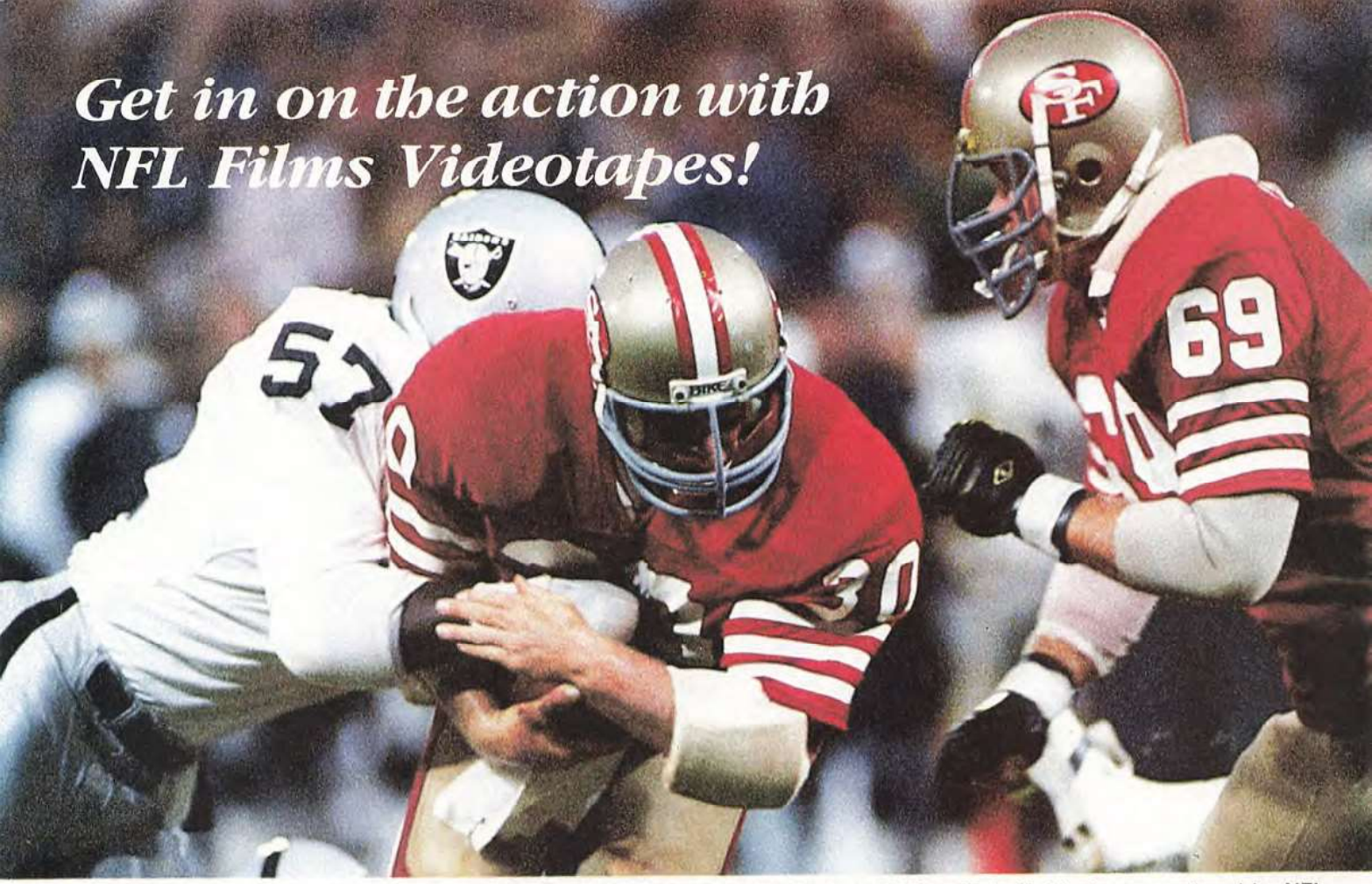

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BUFFALO BILLS

Sept. 2	NEW ENGLAND	17-21
Sept. 9	at St. Louis	7-37
Sept. 17	MIAMI (Mon.)	17-21
Sept. 23	N.Y. JETS	26-28
Sept. 30	at Indianapolis	17-31
Oct. 7	PHILADELPHIA	17-27
Oct. 14	at Seattle	28-31
Oct. 21	DENVER	7-37
Oct. 28	at Miami	7-38
Nov. 4	CLEVELAND	10-13
Nov. 11	at New England	10-38
Nov. 18	DALLAS	14-3
Nov. 25	at Washington	14-41
Dec. 2	INDIANAPOLIS	21-15
Dec. 8	at N.Y. Jets (Sat.)	17-21
Dec. 16	at Cincinnati	21-52
W 2	**L 14**	**250-454**

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Sept. 2	at Denver	17-20
Sept. 9	KANSAS CITY	22-27
Sept. 16	at N.Y. Jets	23-43
Sept. 23	L.A. RAMS	14-24
Oct. 1	at Pittsburgh (Mon.)	17-38
Oct. 7	HOUSTON	13-3
Oct. 14	at New England	14-20
Oct. 21	CLEVELAND	12-9
Oct. 28	at Houston	31-13
Nov. 4	at San Francisco	17-23
Nov. 11	PITTSBURGH	22-20
Nov. 18	SEATTLE	6-26
Nov. 25	ATLANTA	35-14
Dec. 2	at Cleveland*	20-17
Dec. 9	at New Orleans	24-21
Dec. 16	BUFFALO	52-21
W 8	**L 8**	**339-339**

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Sept. 3	at Seattle	0-33
Sept. 9	at L.A. Rams	17-20
Sept. 16	DENVER	14-24
Sept. 23	PITTSBURGH	20-10
Sept. 30	at Kansas City	6-10
Oct. 7	NEW ENGLAND	16-17
Oct. 14	N.Y. JETS	20-24
Oct. 21	at Cincinnati	9-12
Oct. 28	NEW ORLEANS	14-16
Nov. 4	at Buffalo	13-10
Nov. 11	SAN FRANCISCO	7-41
Nov. 18	at Atlanta	23-7
Nov. 25	HOUSTON	27-10
Dec. 2	CINCINNATI*	17-20
Dec. 9	at Pittsburgh	20-23
Dec. 16	at Houston	27-20
W 5	**L 11**	**250-297**

DENVER BRONCOS

Sept. 2	CINCINNATI	20-17
Sept. 9	at Chicago	0-27
Sept. 16	at Cleveland	24-14
Sept. 23	KANSAS CITY	21-0
Sept. 30	L.A. RAIDERS	16-13
Oct. 7	at Detroit	28-7
Oct. 15	GREEN BAY (Mon.)	17-14
Oct. 21	at Buffalo	37-7
Oct. 28	at L.A. Raiders*	22-19
Nov. 4	NEW ENGLAND	26-19
Nov. 11	at San Diego	16-13
Nov. 18	MINNESOTA	42-21
Nov. 25	SEATTLE	24-27
Dec. 2	at Kansas City	13-16
Dec. 9	SAN DIEGO	16-13
Dec. 15	at Seattle (Sat.)	31-14
W 13	**L 3**	**353-241**

HOUSTON OILERS

Sept. 2	L.A. RAIDERS	14-24
Sept. 9	INDIANAPOLIS	21-35
Sept. 16	at San Diego	14-31
Sept. 23	at Atlanta	10-42
Sept. 30	NEW ORLEANS	10-27
Oct. 7	at Cincinnati	3-13
Oct. 14	at Miami	10-28
Oct. 21	SAN FRANCISCO	21-34
Oct. 28	CINCINNATI	13-31
Nov. 4	at Pittsburgh	7-35
Nov. 11	at Kansas City	17-16
Nov. 18	N.Y. JETS	31-20
Nov. 25	at Cleveland	10-27
Dec. 2	PITTSBURGH*	23-20
Dec. 9	at L.A. Rams	16-27
Dec. 16	CLEVELAND	20-27
W 3	**L 13**	**240-437**

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Sept. 2	N.Y. JETS	14-23
Sept. 9	at Houston	35-21
Sept. 16	ST. LOUIS	33-34
Sept. 23	at Miami	7-44
Sept. 30	BUFFALO	31-17
Oct. 7	WASHINGTON	7-35
Oct. 14	at Philadelphia	7-16
Oct. 21	PITTSBURGH	17-16
Oct. 28	at Dallas	3-22
Nov. 4	SAN DIEGO	10-38
Nov. 11	at N.Y. Jets	9-5
Nov. 18	NEW ENGLAND	17-50
Nov. 25	at L.A. Raiders	*7-21
Dec. 2	at Buffalo	15-21
Dec. 9	MIAMI	17-35
Dec. 16	at New England	10-16
W 4	**L 12**	**239-414**

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sept. 2	at Pittsburgh	37-27
Sept. 9	at Cincinnati	27-22
Sept. 16	L.A. RAIDERS	20-22
Sept. 23	at Denver	0-21
Sept. 30	CLEVELAND	10-6
Oct. 7	N.Y. JETS	16-17
Oct. 14	SAN DIEGO	31-13
Oct. 21	at N.Y. Jets	7-28
Oct. 28	TAMPA BAY	24-20
Nov. 4	at Seattle	0-45
Nov. 11	HOUSTON	16-17
Nov. 18	at L.A. Raiders	7-17
Nov. 25	at N.Y. Giants	27-28
Dec. 2	DENVER	16-13
Dec. 9	SEATTLE	34-7
Dec. 16	at San Diego	42-21
W 8	**L 8**	**314-324**

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

Sept. 2	at Houston	24-14
Sept. 9	GREEN BAY	28-7
Sept. 16	at Kansas City	22-20
Sept. 24	SAN DIEGO (Mon.)	33-30
Sept. 30	at Denver	13-16
Oct. 7	SEATTLE	28-14
Oct. 14	MINNESOTA	23-20
Oct. 21	at San Diego	44-37
Oct. 28	DENVER*	19-22
Nov. 4	at Chicago	6-17
Nov. 12	at Seattle (Mon.)	14-17
Nov. 18	KANSAS CITY	17-7
Nov. 25	INDIANAPOLIS	21-7
Dec. 2	at Miami	45-34
Dec. 10	at Detroit (Mon.)	24-3
Dec. 16	PITTSBURGH	7-13
W 11	**L 5**	**368-278**

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Sept. 2	at Washington	35-17
Sept. 9	NEW ENGLAND	28-7
Sept. 17	at Buffalo (Mon.)	21-17
Sept. 23	INDIANAPOLIS	44-7
Sept. 30	at St. Louis	36-28
Oct. 7	at Pittsburgh	31-7
Oct. 14	HOUSTON	28-10
Oct. 21	at New England	44-24
Oct. 28	BUFFALO	38-7
Nov. 4	at N.Y. Jets	31-17
Nov. 11	PHILADELPHIA	24-23
Nov. 16	at San Diego*	28-34
Nov. 26	N.Y. JETS (Mon.)	28-17
Dec. 2	L.A. RAIDERS	34-45
Dec. 9	at Indianapolis	35-17
Dec. 17	DALLAS (Mon.)	28-21
W 14	**L 2**	**513-298**

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Sept. 2	at Buffalo	21-17
Sept. 9	at Miami	7-28
Sept. 16	SEATTLE	38-23
Sept. 23	WASHINGTON	10-26
Sept. 30	at N.Y. Jets	28-21
Oct. 7	at Cleveland	17-16
Oct. 14	CINCINNATI	20-14
Oct. 21	MIAMI	24-44
Oct. 28	N.Y. JETS	30-20
Nov. 4	at Denver	19-26
Nov. 11	BUFFALO	38-10
Nov. 18	at Indianapolis	50-17
Nov. 22	at Dallas (Thanks.)	17-20
Dec. 2	ST. LOUIS	10-33
Dec. 9	at Philadelphia	17-27
Dec. 16	INDIANAPOLIS	16-10
W 9	**L 7**	**362-352**

NEW YORK JETS

Sept. 2	at Indianapolis	23-14
Sept. 6	PITTSBURGH (Thurs.)	17-23
Sept. 16	CINCINNATI	43-23
Sept. 23	at Buffalo	28-26
Sept. 30	NEW ENGLAND	21-28
Oct. 7	at Kansas City	17-16
Oct. 14	at Cleveland	24-20
Oct. 21	KANSAS CITY	28-7
Oct. 28	at New England	20-30
Nov. 4	MIAMI	17-31
Nov. 11	INDIANAPOLIS	5-9
Nov. 18	at Houston	20-31
Nov. 26	at Miami (Mon.)	17-28
Dec. 2	N.Y. GIANTS	10-20
Dec. 8	BUFFALO (Sat.)	21-17
Dec. 16	at Tampa Bay	21-41
W 7	**L 9**	**332-364**

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sept. 2	KANSAS CITY	27-37
Sept. 6	at N.Y. Jets (Thurs.)	23-17
Sept. 16	L.A. RAMS	24-14
Sept. 23	at Cleveland	10-20
Oct. 1	CINCINNATI (Mon.)	38-17
Oct. 7	MIAMI	7-31
Oct. 14	at San Francisco	20-17
Oct. 21	at Indianapolis	16-17
Oct. 28	ATLANTA	35-10
Nov. 4	HOUSTON	35-7
Nov. 11	at Cincinnati	20-22
Nov. 19	at New Orleans (Mon.)	24-27
Nov. 25	SAN DIEGO	52-24
Dec. 2	at Houston*	20-23
Dec. 9	CLEVELAND (Sat.)	23-20
Dec. 16	at L.A. Raiders	13-7
W 9	**L 7**	**387-310**

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sept. 2	at Minnesota	42-13
Sept. 9	at Seattle	17-31
Sept. 16	HOUSTON	31-14
Sept. 24	at L.A. Raiders (Mon.)	30-33
Sept. 30	DETROIT	27-24
Oct. 7	at Green Bay	34-28
Oct. 14	at Kansas City	13-31
Oct. 21	L.A. RAIDERS	37-44
Oct. 29	SEATTLE (Mon.)	0-24
Nov. 4	at Indianapolis	38-10
Nov. 11	DENVER	13-16
Nov. 18	MIAMI*	34-28
Nov. 25	at Pittsburgh	24-52
Dec. 3	CHICAGO (Mon.)	20-7
Dec. 9	at Denver	13-16
Dec. 16	KANSAS CITY	21-42
W 7	**L 9**	**394-413**

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Sept. 3	CLEVELAND	33-0
Sept. 9	SAN DIEGO	31-17
Sept. 16	at New England	23-38
Sept. 23	CHICAGO	38-9
Sept. 30	at Minnesota	20-12
Oct. 7	at L.A. Raiders	14-28
Oct. 14	BUFFALO	31-28
Oct. 21	vs. Green Bay at Milw	30-24
Oct. 29	at San Diego (Mon.)	24-0
Nov. 4	KANSAS CITY	45-0
Nov. 12	L.A. RAIDERS (Mon.)	17-14
Nov. 18	at Cincinnati	26-6
Nov. 25	at Denver	27-24
Dec. 2	DETROIT	38-17
Dec. 9	at Kansas City	7-34
Dec. 15	DENVER (Sat.)	14-31
W 12	**L 4**	**418-282**

1984 AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Miami	14	2	0	.875	513	298
New England	9	7	0	.563	362	352
N.Y. Jets	7	9	0	.438	332	364
Indianapolis	4	12	0	.250	239	414
Buffalo	2	14	0	.125	250	454

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Pittsburgh	9	7	0	.563	387	310
Cincinnati	8	8	0	.500	339	339
Cleveland	5	11	0	.313	250	297
Houston	3	13	0	.188	240	437

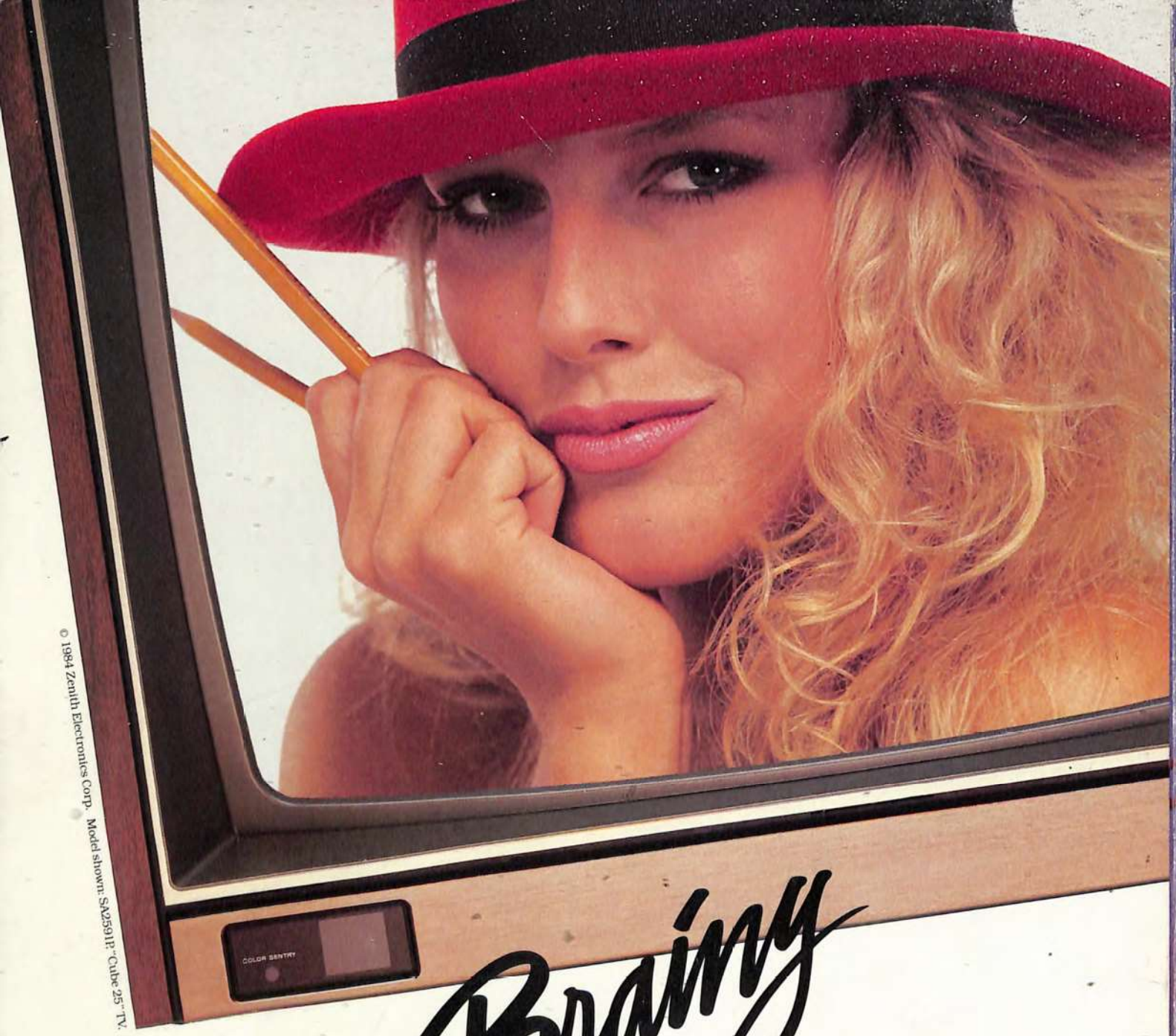
Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Denver	13	3	0	.813	353	241
Seattle	12	4	0	.750	418	282
L.A. Raiders	11	5	0	.688	368	278
Kansas City	8	8	0	.500	314	324
San Diego	7	9	0	.438	394	413

Wild Card Game
Seattle 13, L.A. Raiders 7

Divisional Playoffs
Miami 31, Seattle 10
Pittsburgh 24, Denver 17

Championship Game
Miami 45, Pittsburgh 28



© 1984 Zenith Electronics Corp. Model shown: SA2591P "Cube 25" TV.

Brainy

This year, The Smart Sets from Zenith have more smart, new features than ever before.

There are models that put a 25-inch diagonal picture in a 19-inch space.

There are remote controls that let you switch from VCR to cable to games to regular TV.* Some remotes have Parental Control that lets you lock out channels you don't want. Some even control both the TV and a Zenith VCR.

Here's another brainy idea: all Smart Set models are stereo-adaptable. Some are ready now with built-in stereo decoders, amplifiers and multiple speakers.

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Advanced System 3, The Smart Sets from Zenith. There's only one way to describe them. Brainy.

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*With optional accessory.